

Italy goes to quarter-finals

ROME (R) — Italy rolled over Uruguay 2-0 with goals from Salvatore Schillaci and Aldo Serena Monday to earn a place in the last eight of the World Cup. The Sicilian Schillaci confirmed his status as Italy's new hero with his third goal of the tournament in the 65th minute of a match dominated by the home side. Serena, a second-half substitute for midfielder Nicola Bert, pushed the ball to Schillaci through a defender's legs. Schillaci turned and, finding off two markers, left-footed the ball into the net, over goalkeeper Fernando Alvarez, as the mostly Italian fans in the 73,000-strong crowd at Rome's Olympic Stadium went wild with joy. Serena was on the scoresheet himself in the 83rd minute, heading home a cross from Giuseppe Giannini to send the crowd into renewed frenzy. The victory extended Italy's record as the only side not to concede a goal in the finals and earned them a quarter-final against Ireland in Rome next Saturday.

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Saudis send 40 planes of relief to Iran

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia, long at odds with Iran over its fundamentalist Islamic policies, has sent the first of 40 huge transport planes loaded with earthquake relief aid to Tehran, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said Monday. SPA said the first of 40 C-130 planes filled with medicine and other supplies had left for Iran. It said King Fahd ordered the airlift after he sent a rare message Saturday to Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani expressing condolences for the quake victims. Saudi Arabia cut all diplomatic ties with Iran in 1988, one year after 400 mainly Iranian pilgrims were killed in clashes between Saudi security forces and Iranian-led demonstrators trying to hold political rallies in the Holy City of Mecca during the annual pilgrimage. Tehran has said it would boycott the Hajj, scheduled to start later this month, for the third straight year unless the kingdom tripled the number of Iranians allowed into the country under a quota system.

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Alme brings U.N. offer to Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — A senior U.N. official on a visit to Israel and the occupied territories brought Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir a written offer from Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to help reduce tension in the Middle East, a government source said Monday. The source said Perez de Cuellar had offered his assistance in alleviating strain in the short message that he could serve as mediator between Israel and the Palestinians or Arab states. Shamir thanked U.N. envoy Jean-Claude Alme for the offer and said Israel's own initiative was targeted at reducing tension in the region, the source said.

Hawi holds talks with Qatari leader

NICOSIA (R) — Qatari leader Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani met Lebanese President Elias Hawi Monday to review the latest developments in his war-torn country, the Qatari News Agency reported. It said the two leaders discussed ways of solving the crisis and called on all warring factions in Lebanon to cooperate in ending the 15-year-old civil war. The agency said Lebanese Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss and officials from both countries attended the talks which also covered bilateral relations. Hawi arrived Sunday in Qatar, the second stop in his tour on Gulf countries to seek financial and political support for his government and an Arab League-sponsored peace plan for Lebanon.

Iran denies role in Rajavi murder

NICOSIA (R) — Iran on Monday denied it was involved in the murder of an Iranian dissident leader in Switzerland and said a Swiss report implicating Tehran was irresponsible. A preliminary Swiss report released Friday said police had evidence implicating "one or several official Iranian services" in the murder of Kazem Rajavi in April. Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Morteza Sarvestani suggested the report was inspired by the Iraq-based opposition group Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, which is led by Rajavi's brother Massoud.

Pakistan-India talks likely in mid-July

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan has proposed to India that talks on the disputed state of Kashmir be held in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad during the second week of July, a Foreign Ministry official said Monday. The official confirmed a local newspaper report that Foreign Secretary Tanvir Ahmad Khan had telephoned his Indian counterpart to suggest they hold the talks after the feast of sacrifice on July 4. Pakistan now awaits India's response, the report said. Pakistan proposed the meeting on June 7 in an effort to mend relations after New Delhi accused Islamabad of arming and training Muslim militants fighting for Kashmir's independence. Pakistan denies the charge.

Kuwait asks Manila to find missing royal family members

MANILA (R) — Kuwait Monday asked the Philippine foreign affairs office for help in finding two members of the royal family who were reportedly kidnapped in Manila last week, diplomats said. Kuwaiti Consul General Jassim bin Hamad met with Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus to request assistance in finding Sheikh Salman Al Sabah and his 10-year-old son, diplomats who attended the meeting told reporters. They said Salman is the nephew of Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. One of the diplomats, an ambassador who asked not to be named, said a local police investigation indicated the two Kuwaitis were kidnapped and an Arab group was possibly responsible. The diplomats said Salman and his son came to Manila to see a local faith-healer. Police refused to comment and no other details on the case were available.

Attack seen mostly directed at 'shortcomings' in economic policy

National Bloc criticises cabinet's performance

By Abdullah Hassamat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The National Bloc in the Lower House of Parliament Monday criticised the performance of the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran for failing to address the country's economic and social problems and called for the formation of a "national unity government."

The bloc's spokesman, Salt Deputy Abdullah Ensour, told a press conference that the new era through which Jordan is passing "requires a national government that includes all political trends." He read out a statement detailing the bloc's view of what it sees as shortcomings on the part of the government.

A senior government official declined comment on the political implications of the bloc's statement, saying that such comment should come only after the statement was fully studied by the prime minister and cabinet.

However, he said, it appears that the bloc's criticism was mainly directed at the government's economic policy and that the cabinet economic team would in time reply to the bloc's viewpoints on these issues.

The statement of the bloc read by Ensour, head of the Financial (Continued on page 5)

Following is a translated text of the statement issued Monday by the National Bloc in Parliament:

THE NATIONAL bloc realises the dangers and threats that Jordan faces, which are real and imminent. The bloc realises that the enemy (Israel) aims to destabilise Jordan's national security by all means.

We believe that the enemy is very serious in its attempts to create strategic, geographic and demographic changes in the region to enable it to settle hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants by ending Palestinian existence and expelling Palestinians (to the) East Bank. Evidence of this is plenty, including threats to Jordan made daily and the policy of new government of (Yitzhak) Shamir.

We believe that Jordan's internal security and stability requires that all citizens be aware of the dimensions of the conspiracy and (realise) that the enemy is preparing for military intervention by creating internal strife. This strife will only benefit the enemy.

The security of the internal front does not only require awareness but it is also based on a strong internal front, the best use of resources, efficient public administration and solutions to people's problems.

Thus the bloc recognises that it is its duty to evaluate the government's performance after two parliamentary sessions. Parliament had given confidence to the Cabinet based on its policy state-

ment and not on its formation in accordance to the Constitution. Parliament gave confidence to the government to enable it to fulfil its promises and solve national problems. That was the way to avoid confrontation between the executive and legislative branches.

Now, after two Parliament sessions, we feel responsible to put to the people our opinion in the government.

1) In the context of economy, we see that the government has not come up with a clearly defined policy yet. It only settled for addressing certain problems. There are no programmes except the two letters of intent signed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

In addition, unemployment is mounting and the problem is left to circumstances to solve it. Even the government's measures to stem foreign labour dissipation only a few days after its announcement.

We have seen no progress towards establishing an employment and national development fund and no organised lobbying for securing employment for Jordanians abroad.

2) In the area of supply, the government has reneged on its pledge in Parliament not to lift subsidies without consultation with the legislature. This can be seen in the

Jordan receives \$100m as first instalment of Saudi assistance

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has received \$100 million from Saudi Arabia as the first instalment of Riyadh's financial assistance to Jordan for this year, Finance Minister Basel Jaradneh announced Monday. In a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Jaradneh said the Saudi assistance came in line with the resolutions adopted by the Arab summit held in Baghdad last month.

The minister expressed Jordan's appreciation of King Fahd and the government of Saudi Arabia for extending assistance to Jordan to help it overcome its present economic

difficulties. The Saudi aid raises to \$265 million the total amount that Jordan has received in Arab financial assistance this year. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) gave \$60 million, Kuwait sent \$55 million — \$25 million in cash and \$30 million in oil products — and pledged another \$50 million in cash and \$30 million in oil, Iraq gave \$25 million and pledged another \$25 million, Qatar provided \$20 million and Oman gave \$5 million.

In his statement issued Monday, Jaradneh did not give any figure for the total assistance expected from Saudi Arabia

this year. Contacted by the Jordan Times, Central Bank Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi also did not give any specific figure, but said Jordan expects to receive further assistance from Saudi Arabia, the principal donor of aid to Jordan. A senior official said last week that Jordan expects to receive "a little bit over \$500 million" in Arab assistance during 1990.

The fiscal budget for the year envisages \$360 million in Arab aid. Addressing the Baghdad summit last month, His Majes-

ty King Hussein delivered a strong warning to Arab countries that Jordan on its own was no longer able to maintain its defensive capabilities in the face of Israeli threats, which, he said, were not confined to Jordan alone but extended to the entire Arab World. The final communique of the summit reflected the Arab leaders' realisation of the situation, according to Jordanian officials. The communique said Arab countries would extend assistance to Jordan but did not specify any amount, leaving it to bilateral arrangements between the Kingdom and the donors.

Arab ministers to meet tomorrow at PLO request

TUNIS (Agencies) — Arab foreign ministers will meet in Tunis Wednesday at the request of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), an Arab League spokesman said Monday.

The meeting, called at short notice last Saturday, will discuss Israeli repression in the occupied territories and the U.S. decision to break off talks with the PLO, he said.

Some Arab countries had suggested postponing the meeting until the feast of Eid Al Adha next week but the PLO wanted it to go ahead as soon as possible, diplomats said.

Arab states have widely condemned the U.S. decision last Wednesday and have asked Washington to think again.

PLO commitment

A PLO leader said in remarks quoted Monday that the organisation was more attached than ever to a peace initiative it launched in 1988.

"The PLO is more committed to its initiative than at any time in the past," Salah Khalaf, second man in Fateh after Yassar Arafat, told the Amman daily Al Dustour Monday.

"The PLO will continue to intensify contacts with West European countries, the Soviet Union and countries of the (U.N.) Security Council to get support for its initiative and active movement to achieve it," Khalaf said.

The PLO announced its peace strategy in November 1988 when the Palestine National Council (PNC) proclaimed an independent Palestinian state to be set up in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Arafat publicly recognised Israel and renounced terrorism the following month, prompting the United States to open a restricted dialogue with the PLO.

Washington suspended the dialogue last Wednesday because the PLO did not condemn a May 30 sea raid on the Israeli coast by one of its member factions, the Palestine Liberation Front.

Bonn grants DM 30m in soft loan, clears use of earlier DM 25m credit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has secured a soft loan worth 30 million marks (DM) from West Germany and an agreement from Bonn to use an earlier loan of DM 25 million to cover the cost of implementing the second phase of an irrigation project in the Jordan Valley. The two agreements were contained in minutes signed by officials from both sides following a meeting here which reviewed West German financial and technical assistance to Jordan.

The fresh loan is for 30

years, including a 10-year grace period, and carries two per cent interest, according to officials.

The minutes were signed by Planning Minister Khaled Amin Abdullah and West German Economic Cooperation Ministry Director Winfried Fuchs.

The agreements also provide for the utilisation of earlier loans in interest on earlier West German loans to Jordan, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. The amount, estimated at JD 7 million over the

next three years, would be used to implement the programmes of the fund for development and employment.

According to the minutes, DM 1.1 million originally allocated to the Zarqa River Basin project can now be diverted to other projects of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation.

Amman and Bonn also agreed to study possibilities of including three other projects with a total cost of DM 5.5 in the general West German technical assistance programme for Jordan.

Palestinian girl shot dead

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An eight-year-old Palestinian girl died in hospital in Jerusalem Monday, two days after she was shot by Israeli soldiers in the occupied West Bank.

Massaged hospital staff said Zuhayrah Abdul Karim Masini, from Tulikarm refugee camp, died of a gunshot wound to the head. Palestinians said she was shot when soldiers clashed with stone-throwers Saturday.

Military officials confirmed the death and said a commander shot the girl "accidentally" when she left her house during clashes between troops and Palestinians.

The officer had been hit by a stone and tried to fire at a demonstrator who threw the rock, they said.

The army imposed a curfew on the camp to prevent residents demonstrating against the girl's death.

Earlier, the army said they had no record of anyone being wounded in the Tulikarm area on that day but said they would check the report.

A Tulikarm hospital official said Masini was sent to the better-equipped Massaged hospital because her injury was so severe.

The army, under harsh criticism from Israeli and Palestinian human rights groups, has been accused of systematically brutalising children.

The Israeli Centre for Human Rights in the occupied territories said 154 Palestinian children under the age of 16 had been killed by Israelis since the outbreak of the Palestinian uprising in December 1987.

Israeli police fired tear-gas to disperse 200 Jewish residents in Arab Jerusalem who stoned Palestinian cars Sunday, Israel Radio said.

The residents of Neve Yaacov, a Jewish neighbourhood surrounded by Arab villages in Arab Jerusalem, were protesting against the wounding of an Israeli girl by stone-throwers Saturday night.

After a tense week in which police shot dead two Arabs in east Jerusalem, patrols in the city were increased.

On Sunday, police lifted a rare three-day curfew on trouble spots in Arab Jerusalem, but police chief Yaacov Turner warned that more Palestinians could be killed if the violent demonstrations did not cease.

Shamir sends 'reassuring' message to Soviet leader

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, in what he himself describes as an unusual letter, has personally appealed to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev not to cut off the flow of Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel.

In the letter, a text of which was made available to Reuters by authoritative sources Monday, Shamir also personally assured Gorbachev that Israel does not have a policy of "directing" Soviet Jews to the occupied Arab territories and only a handful of emigrants had actually settled there.

Gorbachev, in his summit with President George Bush in Washington earlier this month, raised the prospects of cutting off Jewish emigration to Israel if the immigrants were settled in the occupied territories.

Arab complaints that Jewish immigrants could be used to overwhelm Palestinian inhabitants in the occupied territories, Shamir contended in his letter, were a smokescreen for Arab objections to any Jewish emigration to Israel.

Shamir, in the letter dated May 29, began by saying, "I take the liberty of an unusual measure in writing you concerning the Jews of the Soviet Union and their emigration to Israel."

He praised the Soviet Union "under your leadership (Gorbachev's) for the opening of gates for the Jews who yearn for their

'historic homeland'."

Shamir added, "We know that certain pressures are exerted upon the Soviet Union in this issue, and I take the liberty to use the word — which is not usual in diplomatic procedure — on the part of Arab countries and organisations."

"The argument for this is that Jews coming to our country from the Soviet Union settle in part in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip."

"May I bring to your attention, in the most sincere and official way, that the campaign initiated by the Arabs does not concern settlement in those 'territories' but Jewish immigration to Israel as a whole and the very existence of the state of Israel."

He added that Israel did not have a policy to send immigrants to the territories and that the percentage of Soviet Jews going there was "minimal."

But he added that Israel believed Jews could settle in Jerusalem and there was no place in the city where Jews could be forbidden to live.

Sources said Shamir's letter was given to Soviet officials twice, first by Israel's chief representative in Moscow two weeks ago and last Monday by Edgar Bronfman, the president of the World Jewish Congress (WJC), in a meeting with the Soviet ambassador to Washington.

A WJC spokesman declined comment on the letter or its

contents. Shamir denied Monday that Israel had bowed to pressure from Moscow and Washington when it promised not to settle Soviet Jewish immigrants in occupied territories.

"We didn't surrender to any pressure. We only gave a response to all those accusations that we are bringing immigrants to settle in (the West Bank) and Gaza," he told reporters.

Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, a leading supporter of Jewish settlement in the occupied territories, made the surprise announcement Sunday.

Shamir confirmed that he sent a letter two weeks ago reassuring Gorbachev.

Shamir also dispatched a message to the European Community (EC) summit in Dublin saying his new right-wing government wants to pursue the Middle East peace process, said spokesman Avi Pazner.

The assurances seemed to signal a new diplomatic offensive at a time when Israel has become increasingly isolated over its refusal to accept U.S. proposals for peace talks or to give solid guarantees on the settlement of immigrants.

The aide said Shamir wrote to the leaders of 13 EC states last week assuring them the government would absorb Soviet Jewish immigrants in ways that "will not prejudice the position of any other inhabitants."

Riyadh launches major relief operation for Iranian earthquake

RIYADH (AP) — In the name of Islam, Saudi Arabia launched Sunday a major relief operation for the Iran earthquake victims whose rulers it has often accused of terrorism and subversion.

The Defence Ministry was preparing its U.S.-supplied giant C-130 Hercules plane for an air bridge of medicine, food and tents, officials said.

The first plane was to leave Monday at the latest and would be the first Saudi aircraft to land in Iran since April 1988 when the kingdom ruptured its ties with Tehran amid a bitter propaganda war.

Interior Minister Prince Nayef bin Abdul-Aziz, on an inspection tour of Mecca for the pilgrimage, declared "the kingdom's assistance to Iran will be of weight."

"This is a catastrophe that has befallen an Islamic country and a Muslim nation, and assistance is a humanitarian dictate of our Islamic faith," he said.

He said it was "a privilege" for the kingdom to be able to rush such assistance and urged for personal donations, declaring "every one is required to stand by

Iran to help it overcome this disaster."

He was specifically asked how the assistance could reach Iran in view of the rupture of ties, and he said it was being arranged through "contacts" and that the kingdom would be taking care of it all.

He did not say whether the contacts had been direct or through third parties like Oman which has been leading mediation bids by the rest of the Gulf Arab conservative states to heal the rift between the two giant Islamic nations, who however predominantly belong to different Islamic sects of Sunni and Shi'ite.

It was significant that Prince Nayef was making his statements from Mecca and during the pilgrimage season. The bent of the Iranian pilgrimage contingent for political demonstrations during the annual religious rites had been the direct cause for Riyadh's

rupture of the ties. In the pilgrimage of 1987, the demonstrations led to clashes with the Saudi police and the death of 402 pilgrims.

With the news of the disaster hitting Iran, the leaders of the other Gulf Arab neighbours, including Iraq which waged an eight-year bloody war with Iran, had immediately issued statements of sympathy and support.

These countries, like Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, have been improving their ties with Iran once the Gulf war was halted in August 1988, and any remaining political sensitivities with the Iranians have been cast aside with the earthquake disaster.

The UAE allowed its Red Crescent to immediately start collecting financial and material donations which Iran Air would be shipping free of charge across the Gulf waters.

In Kuwait, a military plane left Sunday for Iran with a million dollars of relief aid and a medical mission at the orders of the crown prince, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. It was announced as a

Algeria calls for European-Mediterranean dialogue

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria called Monday for a European-Mediterranean dialogue to help solve regional conflicts and economic crises in poorer Mediterranean states.

Foreign Minister Sid Ahmad Ghazali opened a foreign ministers' meeting of 10 Non-Aligned Mediterranean states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) by saying they did not want to be left behind by changes now sweeping Europe.

"We have legitimate aspirations to benefit from the (international climate of) relaxation and disarmament and security and cooperation in Europe so their positive effects include the Mediterranean region," he said.

A draft declaration obtained by Reuters call for participation by

Non-Aligned - Mediterranean states in talks on Mediterranean security by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

The document also calls for stepped up European Community financial aid for developing states around the Mediterranean basin and for a separate conference proposed by Italy and Spain on Mediterranean security and cooperation.

Morocco, Tunisia, Syria, Egypt, Libya, Lebanon, Malta, Cyprus, Yugoslavia, Algeria and the PLO met in Malta in 1984 and in Yugoslavia in 1987, where they approved a framework for regional economic cooperation.

"We are firmly committed to working for the creation of a dialogue so the regional move-

ment can participate in helping to solve peacefully the conflicts that still exist in the Mediterranean region," said Ghazali.

He cited conflicts in Lebanon, Cyprus and the Middle East, where Arab-Israeli tension has been heightened by the appointment of a right-wing Israeli government and Washington's decision to suspend an 18-month-old dialogue with the PLO.

"The decision to suspend dialogue between the American administration and the PLO represents a blatant encouragement to Israeli stubbornness (in the Middle East peace process)," Ghazali said.

A draft political declaration also seen by Reuters condemns the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel, seen as a threat to Palestinian aspirations for their own state, and supports the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories.

The document supports an Arab tripartite committee trying to end Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war and peace talks between the Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus.

Ghazali called for "substantial" European financial support to developing Mediterranean states and supported the idea of a Euro-Mediterranean bank.

"There can be no permanent stability in the region without a reduction of the differences in the levels of development and creation of an economic dialogue helping to guarantee the common interest," he added.

Sudan frees without trial 4 leaders of aborted coup

KHARTOUM (AP) — The military government was reported Monday to have released without trial four leaders of an alleged coup attempt foiled last March 15.

The state-owned newspaper Al Injaz Al Watani said in an unattributed story that the freed men included three former senior officials.

It gave no explanation for the release and there was no comment from the government.

Several dozen Sudanese were arrested following the alleged coup attempt in March but were not prosecuted. In April, the government claimed it had aborted a second coup related to the March attempt.

The alleged perpetrators of the second attempt were dealt with immediately and severely. Military authorities executed by firing squad 28 active or retired army officers after a summary court martial. Sixteen army officers received prison terms up to life and another 13 senior officers were cashiered.

The newspaper identified the released men as retired Gen. Mahdi Babo Nimir, a former chief of staff; retired Maj. Gen. Fadalla Burma Nasser, a former minister of state for defence; and Abdul Rasool Al Nour, governor of the western Kordofan region.

The fourth was identified as Al-Tayeb Mohammad Al Tayeb but his occupation was not given. The four are members of the now-dissolved Umma Party, whose leader is former Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi.

Lt. Gen. Omar Hassan Al Bashir overthrew Mahdi last June 30 in a military coup.

The newspaper did not say whether other people remained in custody in connection with the March coup attempt.

Israeli speaker refuses to host German counterparts

TEL AVIV (R) — The speakers of the East and West German parliaments arrived in Israel on an historic joint trip abroad Monday but their Israeli counterpart, a survivor of the Nazi holocaust, refused to host them.

Officials welcomed the three-day visit but there were signs of concern that a united Germany would pose a renewed threat to Jewish survival.

The trip by speakers Rita Süssmuth of West Germany and Sabine Bergmann-Pohl of East Germany was seen as a milestone along the road to German unification with special significance for the Jewish state.

"The fact they chose Israel is a very nice gesture. It's a visit of good will towards Israel and the Jewish people," Foreign Ministry spokesman Motti Amichai said.

Israeli Speaker Dov Shilansky, 66, declined to host the joint visit but planned to meet the guests privately for 45 minutes Tuesday.

Shilansky, a Lithuanian-born survivor of Dachau concentration camp, was "simply on a day off," said Yair Amikam, information chief at the Knesset, Israel's parliament.

But political sources said Shilansky called it a holiday rather than a boycott to avoid harming German-Israeli relations.

Deputy Speaker Dan Tichon, 53, was acting as host for the visitors who will meet Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Saudi prince urges sanctions against U.S.

ORLANDO, Florida (R) — Saudi Prince Turki bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud has urged Arab countries to impose economic sanctions against the United States to punish it for suspending an 18-month dialogue with the PLO.

The prince, a brother of Saudi Monarch King Fahd and a former deputy defence minister, said his nation would impose sanctions if the United States did not resume talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"If the American administration does not hurry up and correct this, I would call on all Arab nations to do something like this," he told reporters through an interpreter.

He was in Orlando to attend a meeting of the Council for the National Interest and the American Educational Trust, two groups which support Palestinian self-determination.

The prince told reporters that a collective Arab decision would be made about the type of sanctions to impose if it became clear that President George Bush would not reconsider the decision.

The United States ended the dialogue with the PLO Wednesday after PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat failed to meet U.S. demands to condemn a "flood" of Palestinian sea raid on Israel and punish its perpetrators.

In a cable message sent to the Orlando meeting, Arafat called the disruption of talks "an unwise and irresponsible decision" that encouraged Israel to continue its occupation of West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"This suspension also serves the interest of those who oppose a just peace process in the area and encourages them to commit further crimes and aggression against our people," said Arafat.

The prince, who also chairs an organisation offering educational grants to Arab students, criticised the Bush administration for backing out of its role as a "credible arbitrator" in the Middle East peace process.

When asked if Saudi Arabia might surrender some of its market share to prop up sliding world oil prices, he said the kingdom would comply with whatever recommendations result from an OPEC meeting scheduled next month.

Saudi Arabia is the biggest single producer with the 13-member Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), and has production quota of nearly 5.4 million barrels per day. Since January, oil prices have fallen by about 30 per cent due to overproduction by OPEC members.

Ethiopian rebels call on president to step down

NAIROBI (AP) — Tigrayan rebels said they were willing to observe an immediate ceasefire providing Ethiopia's current government stepped down and was replaced by a transitional one.

The Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), which long has called for President Mengistu Haile Mariam's ouster, made the ceasefire offer Sunday in a clandestine radio broadcast monitored in Nairobi.

In a separate broadcast, the rebels said they had killed 595 soldiers in capturing two towns about 160 kilometres northeast of Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa, and were "advancing victoriously" in the region.

The EPRDF is one of two main rebel groups who, in the last year, have made significant advances against the government and now control much of the nation's north.

Their ceasefire offer was made four days after Haile Mariam urged Ethiopian parliamentarians to form a strategy to halt the rebel advances which he said threatened "the very survival" of the impoverished East African nation.

The EPRDF, and alliance of the Tigre People's Liberation

Front and the much smaller Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement, criticised the president's address as a "call for continuing bloodshed, and a call for doom."

However, the rebels said if the current leadership was replaced by a broad-based transitional government that would hold internationally-supervised elections, the EPRDF was "willing and ready to implement an immediate ceasefire."

Ethiopia's government did not immediately respond to the rebel offer.

The Tigrayan rebels have been fighting since 1974. Since November, they've held three rounds of inconclusive preliminary peace talks with Mengistu's government.

Ethiopia's largest rebel group, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, also has held peace talks with the government but earlier this month rejected any further negotiations saying it believed it could achieve its objectives militarily.

The EPLF took up arms in 1961 seeking independence for Eritrea, Ethiopia's northernmost province which controls the nation's Red Sea coastline and is a former Italian colony.

Quake highlights rift in Iran's leadership over ties with West

TAHRAN (R) — The Earthquake which killed up to 30,000 people in Iran last week has highlighted the rift in Iran's Islamic leadership over relations with the West.

As bulldozers clear the rubble of thousands of flattened houses, radical Islamic fundamentalists and moderates have brought their differences into the open over how Iran's relations with the United States should develop.

The United States — "the great Satan" to the fundamentalists — is among dozens of countries which have sent or offered to supply emergency relief help to Iran.

The English-language Tehran Times, which is close to President Ali Akbar Rafsanjani, said in an editorial Monday that the Iranian government should welcome all international aid.

It said government relief work had not been able to cope with the disaster which has made half a million people homeless.

But the hardline Jomhuri Eslami launched a scathing attack on the United States, accusing it of responsibility for the quake, and demanded that American aid should be rejected.

"Our people, even under the rubble, chant 'death to America' and pray to almighty God to cut

off the U.S. hand... even those hands stretched to help," the daily said in an editorial.

"If America, instead of plundering Iran's oil and other resources during its quarter-century of forced domination over Iran had left small portions of the national wealth to the Iranians, the money would have been spent on urban development projects and advanced construction systems," it added.

A U.S. plane carrying aid arrived in Tehran early Monday, and American aid workers said they had not been allowed to accompany the relief supplies they had brought to the quake zone, about 200 kilometres northwest of the Iranian capital.

"We very much had hoped to get to the earthquake zone and at first we received permission to get but then we were told that unfortunately no doctors were allowed to go. We would like to have seen what happened to the supplies," said U.S. aid worker Teri Tamowski.

The plane carrying supplies from the American Agency was one of the first U.S. planes to land in Iran since relations were cut in 1980, a year after the fall of the pro-U.S. shah.

Several U.S. planes brought military spare parts to Iran when

Iraqi minister flies to Turkey

BAGHDAD (AP) — Agriculture Minister Abdul Wahab Mahmoud flew to Istanbul Monday for talks with Turkish and Syrian officials on a dispute over sharing the waters of the Euphrates River.

Iraqi officials said the three-day ministerial meeting, which begins Tuesday, will seek to defuse a growing crisis between Turkey and its southern Arab neighbours, whose economies depend heavily on the availability of Euphrates water.

The crisis has been simmering since January when Turkey blocked much of the Euphrates flow for a month to fill the reservoir of the giant Ataturk Dam in southeastern Anatolia province.

The move underlined Ankara's control of the (2,330-kilometres-long) river which originates in the mountains of eastern Turkey and flows through Syria and Iraq before joining the Tigris River to run into the Gulf. Iraq and Syria protested bitterly against the cut-off.

Iranian quake reduces farming town to pile of rocks

MANJIL, Iran (Agencies) — From a distance, this village Sunday looked like just another pile of rocks found on any hillside in northern Iran.

Thursday's earthquake left hardly a building standing and killed many of its 2,000 people, who are mainly farmers.

Army bulldozers were digging communal graves in a nearby field, then soldiers filled them with hundreds of bodies and hurriedly shovelled in the soil amid an overpowering stench.

"We had to do that by hand and not use the bulldozers," said an army sergeant. "Human beings are buried here."

He described the graves as too shallow "because we did not expect so many bodies."

A few survivors from the town assembled around the groves, many of them wailing in grief for their relatives and friends.

Manjil is an agricultural and fishing town on the banks of an artificial lake, 200 kilometres

northwest of Tehran. Western news photographers visited it Sunday.

The scene is reminiscent of old photographs of the devastation from World War II. Only occasional telephone poles and bits of some buildings were left standing.

A large wall portrait of late revolutionary patriarch Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, half of his face reduced to rubble, loomed above the remains of a house.

Similar scenes of devastation and tales of grief were reported throughout the afflicted region.

Kazem Hosseini's brother died pinned between his legs. His baby nephew perished within earshot.

"I thought so many times I was going to die. I could see death," the 19-year-old survivor of the earthquake told Reuters in a Tehran hospital Monday.

Kazem and nine of his family were trapped in their collapsing home as they tried to flee the shock early Thursday morning.

Rescuers reached them 16 hours later.

Six were alive. Four were dead. "My brother was under me, his shoulders and head squeezed between my legs," said Kazem, who suffered two broken arms and a broken leg.

"He begged me to get off. I had a hole to breathe but could not move."

"We kept talking for about two hours. Then he stopped."

Kazem's family lived in the lakeside town of Manjil.

No one has been found alive since Saturday. Rescue workers have started levelling the wreckage with bulldozers.

"We all felt the shock and started running away. But before we could get out the house fell on us," Kazem recalled.

"I could hear my sister's baby crying. I listened to the baby for an hour, and then the crying stopped."

"I could talk and shout with my sister and her husband across the

heaps of masonry. But it was all so dark. I could not see anything."

The baby was dead when rescuers dug the family out. So were Kazem's brother, father and grandfather.

Iranian rescue workers appeared to have given up hope Sunday of finding anymore survivors.

But outlying villages in this mountainous region 200 kilometres northwest of Tehran remained cut off from rescue workers and peasants were still clawing at the rubble of their own homes.

Rescuers said survivors had been dug out alive Saturday but that none have been found since. Temperatures above 90 degrees Fahrenheit (33 degrees Centigrade) made the task of burying victims very urgent, they added.

An Iranian woman, dressed in the full-length black chador required in Iran's hardline Muslim society, wailed and pounded the

ground with her fists as she knelt at her son's grave, marked only by one of several thousand concrete blocks dotting a makeshift cemetery.

About 90 per cent of the town's buildings have collapsed like packs of cards. The picture was identical in dozens of other villages and towns during a helicopter journey Sunday around the region.

The final death toll could remain a mystery because the number of dead was so high that rescuers were forced to bury victims en masse. Estimates of the number of dead in Manjil varied between 5,000 and 35,000.

"It's impossible to say how many people died here, but just look at the place. Most people were asleep when it happened and that's why so many children are dead," said primary school teacher Raj Behnia, standing in the ruins of his home.

Manjil's residents have been moved into hundreds of Iranian

Red Crescent tents but they rushed out into the streets again Sunday when a violent aftershock to Thursday's main quake rumbled through the town.

Reporters were also flown to the tiny hillside hamlet of Kurdmolli: It no longer exists.

Flimsy wood and clay houses have slid down the hill or simply toppled over. Residents said 75 out of 225 inhabitants were killed.

Two or three people were searching through rubble Sunday, trying to recover possessions. A dented sewing machine, carpets and a battered oven were piled next to the ruin of one house as their owners sat beside them, still dazed and not knowing what to do nearly four days after the quake.

Kolbar Chegane, 20, was buried under her house with her four children when the earthquake struck and was pulled out after three hours by residents of a nearby village.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Korona
15:45	Programme review
15:55	Children programmes
16:00	World Cup: Spain vs. Yugoslavia
PROGRAMME TWO	
15:45	Programme review
15:55	News in Arabic
16:00	Arabic series
16:10	Programme review
16:20	Local programme
16:30	News summary in Arabic
PROGRAMME TWO	
16:30	Des chiffres et de lettres
16:40	Tel Parc Tel Film
16:50	News in French
17:00	Aujourd'hui en Jordanie
17:10	News in Hebrew
17:20	News in Arabic
17:30	Charles in Charge
17:40	A Horseman Riding By
17:50	News in English
18:00	World Cup: England vs. Belgium
PRAYER TIMES	
6:52	Fajr
12:38	Dhuhr (Shrine) Dhuhr
12:38	Dhuhr
16:19	Asr
19:59	Maghreb
21:25	Isha

JORDAN TIMES DAILY

Min./Max. temp.	
Amman	20 / 34
Aqaba	24 / 38
Desert	19 / 37
Jordan Valley	24 / 39

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 33, Aqaba 40. Humidity readings: Amman 21 per cent, Aqaba 16 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Khalid Abdo	657129
Dr. Abdul Aziz Abu Khalil	622520
Dr. Walid Sahawneh	779997
Dr. Hana Mansour	732574
Firas pharmacy	661912
Ferdous pharmacy	778336
Al Azema pharmacy	637025
Nairoukh pharmacy	626672
Al Salem pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Succes pharmacy	637660

JERUSALEM:

Dr. Tawfik Al Bayyal	(—)
Al Shams' pharmacy	(985238)

ZARQA:

Dr. Musa Odah	(—)
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HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalil Maternity, J. Amn.	642412/6
Jalal Maternity, J. Amn.	642412/6
Jalal Maternity, J. Amn.	642412/6
Palestine, Shamsi	661714
Shamsi Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845945
Al-Mustashfi Hospital	657271/9
The Islamic, Abadi	661271/7
Al-Abi, Abadi	661646
Indira, Al-Mahajra	777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	775111/26

ARMY:

Marka	891611/5
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KHALIL:

Khalil pharmacy	985417
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EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence immediate	
Rescue	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police	192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade	691228
Black Bank	775321
Highway Police	834302
Traffic Police	696390
Public Security Department	630352
Hotel Complaints	605800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	
Complaints	897465
Autism Municipality	
Complaints	787111
Telephone Information	
(directory assistance)	121
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	
Repairs	623101
Abadi's Telephone Repairs	661101
Jordan Television	773111
Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	680100
Joint Electricity Authority	815415
Electric Power	
Company	663681
RJ Flight Information	08-53200
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	08-53200

JUST pilot project to help prevent retardation

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) has decided to embark on a pilot project next month to help curtail the number of mentally retarded children in the Irbid Governorate.

As of the beginning of the coming month laboratory tests and free medical examinations will be conducted on newly born infants to determine whether they suffer from any of two types of diseases that normally lead to brain damage causing mental retardation, according to Dr. Saad Hijazi, dean of the university's Faculty of Medicine.

He told the Jordan Times that the examination and the laboratory tests will focus on the thyroid gland and phenylketonuria (PKU) disorders of the thyroid gland and PKU are believed to be hereditary diseases which lead to mental retardation.

Dr. Hijazi said that disorders of the thyroid gland and of some liver enzymes are bound to lead to mental retardation; the projected campaign, believed to be the first in the Arab World, is designed to reduce the number of retarded children in Jordan.

Asked on the duration of the campaign, Dr. Hijazi said it would be a continuing process

involving a special team of doctors who will conduct the examination on the infants and study the laboratory test reports in each case.

"If examination is conducted in the first three weeks after birth, there is almost 100 per cent chance for any retardation to be avoided," Dr. Hijazi added.

"We are launching this pilot project with the help of the Ministry of Health, and the Civil Status Department which will supply us with the names and addresses of the newly born babies who can then be reached by members of the team to conduct the necessary examination and laboratory tests," Dr. Hijazi said in a telephone conversation.

"All babies born within the Irbid Governorate will be entitled to benefit from this programme which, if proved successful, could be expanded to encompass the whole country," Hijazi, who is supervising the programme, said.

"This kind of examination is compulsory in such countries as the United Kingdom and West Germany and is conducted at all hospitals free of charge so as to provide protection to the children's health," he pointed out.

Taking into account that Jordan has one of the highest population growth rates in the world, running at nearly four per cent, JUST expects that

thousands of infants in the Irbid Governorate will benefit from the project.

According to the dean, the programme was prepared following a wide scale field survey and study supervised by JUST President Dr. Kamel Ajlouni, Dr. Hijazi himself and Dr. Ibrahim Al Khutub who teaches at the faculty of medicine.

Hijazi said that the programme will be launched at mother and child health care centres in Sarh, Eidoun, Huwara, Huson, Nu'weimeh, Bushra, Saal, Hakama and Kufur Youba. The town of Irbid has been excluded from the programme for the time being due to lack of sufficient funds, but it will certainly be included later on, Hijazi said.

Referring to the laboratory test, Hijazi said that it entails taking a single drop of blood from the heel of the infant for tests. Should the test prove that the newly-born suffers from thyroid gland disorder or phenylketonuria, he would immediately be transferred for treatment to one of the specialised hospitals or health centres.

Hijazi said that the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) has expressed readiness to contribute to the programme by providing financial assistance to cover the cost for treatment of infants born to needy families.

Faqir satisfied with pilgrims' conditions

MECCA (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ali Al Faqir arrived here Monday in order to inspect the conditions of Jordanian pilgrims performing religious rites in the Holy City.

Soon after his arrival Faqir met with the Jordanian mission accompanying the pilgrims and was briefed on the arrangements made for their accommodation and transportation within Holy City.

He also visited the pilgrims town at Al Jamoum and was at hand to welcome Jordanian pilgrims arriving by bus from Medina, another Holy City visited by the pilgrims before Mecca.

Later the minister said in a statement that he was satisfied with the arrangements and services for the pilgrims and added that a joint operations room has been set up to supervise services for pilgrims.

Faqir said that services provided by a national Jordanian corporation were not up to the required standard this year and that he intended to investigate the shortcomings.

The minister said that he had received a report from the head of the Jordanian medical mission saying that pilgrims were in good health except for some who had caught cold or were exhausted after the long trip over land and the very hot weather in Saudi Arabia.

The minister said no contagious diseases had appeared among the pilgrims this year.

Pharmaceutical call for Arab common market

AMMAN (Petra) — The Federation of Producers of Drugs and Medical Appliances in the Arab World has issued a call on Arab ministers of health, agriculture, industry and trade to establish an Arab common market of medicines as soon as possible to help set up an integrated Arab market for medicines.

The call, which came at the end of a symposium on medicine in the Arab World, urged Arab states to remove all restrictions and measures that impede the flow of trade in medical supplies and pharmaceutical products and to help boost pharmaceutical production in the Arab World to cover at least 60 per cent of the total needs of Arab countries from the present 34 per cent by the end of the present century.

The Arab World is called on to form a common market for trading in pharmaceutical products and drugs during this year, and

Stricter measures are applied to curtail drugs

AMMAN (Petra) — Over the past three years the total number of drug addicts in Jordan reached 458 of whom 50 per cent were non-Jordanians and 139 of the total have now been rehabilitated at mental and specialised health institutions in the Kingdom, according to Brigadier Izzeddin Zaza, director of the Anti-Narcotics Bureau at the Public Security Department (PSD).

Speaking on the eve of the International Day for Combating Drug Abuse and Trafficking, Zaza said that Jordan was neither a drug producer nor a consumer country, but its territory was being used by drug traffickers. Zaza quoted official statistics as showing that the ratio of drug addicts in Jordan does not exceed 13 per 10,000, among the lowest in the world.

He said that drugs had been found to have spread mainly among Jordanian students and non-Jordanian workers in the Kingdom. The students were studying abroad and they became addicted to drugs, he explained.

During 1989 the PSD seized a total of 5,338 kilograms of hashish, more than seven kilograms of heroin, 20 grammes of cocaine, 190 grammes of opium and 300,437 captagon pills, Zaza announced.

He said that police found 345 persons, of whom 152 Jordanians, involved in drug trafficking operations during 1989.

In the first half of 1990 the PSD seized 4,178 kilograms of hashish, 35 grammes of cocaine, 819 grammes of heroin, 79 grammes of opium smuggled into the country by 197 persons including 127 Jordanians.

Zaza said stricter measures were being applied to foil drug trafficking operations, and there was increased cooperation with regional and international police forces. Improved methods of monitoring borders are also helping the country curtail the danger of drugs, he said.



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150,000 non-Jordanians employed locally; 300,000 Jordanians work abroad

Symposium calls for measures to resolve unemployment

AMMAN (Petra) — An estimated 150,000 non-Jordanians are currently employed in the Kingdom and they are doing jobs which are either shunned by Jordanians or non-Jordanian workers can carry out, according to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

At the same time an estimated 300,000 Jordanians, or 40 per cent of the workforce representing the highest yield of investment in the Kingdom are currently employed in Arab Gulf states, Prince Hassan said in a speech delivered on his behalf by Dr. Taher Kanan, director general of the Industrial Development Bank (IDB).

The increase of unemployment rates in the Kingdom, he said, is the main source of concern for the country because it constitutes a serious danger to the fabric of the society.

One cannot rely solely on theories and economic analysis in dealing with unemployment, but rather practical steps should be taken and studies of other countries' methods in handling such problems should be carefully studied, Prince Hassan said in his speech delivered at the opening session of a regional seminar on employment strategies in the Arab World.

The seminar, organised by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the World Bank, is attended by delegates from these two institutions, the Arab Monetary Fund, the International Monetary Fund, the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Arab Labour Organisation, the International Labour Organisation, the European Community and institutions from the private and public sectors in Jordan.

Referring to Jordan, Prince Hassan said that the Kingdom has been at the same time an exporter and an importer of workers. In the past, he added, this was considered a healthy symptom because there used to be flexibility and stability in the demand and supply process, unlike the present when the country is facing a problem of unemployment.

The deputy director of the World Bank addressed the session pointing out that the bank aims at helping the countries of the Middle East and the Mediterranean region to build up their economic strength and attain good rates of development in the present stage and after

1992 when Europe becomes united.

The World Bank views unemployment as a problem with serious impact, adversely affecting national economies and retarding social development.

He called on governments facing unemployment to adopt practical policies that take into account economic adjustments and reform.

Queen lays foundation stone for bee project

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein will Wednesday lay the foundation stone for a building for a bee breeding and honey production project. The project is carried out by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation within the framework of its programme "Women and Development" in Al Ein area in Karak Governorate.

Tawjihi — "glory or nightmare"

By Saeda Kilani

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Around 66,300 students sat for their final tawjihi examination yesterday, putting an end to what many describe as an exhausting year and two weeks of "tension" — where pressure from parents, relatives, neighbours and friends has electrified most into a state of apprehension and anxiety to ensure that they clear the hurdle as the first step towards taking the giant leap from school to university.

For those who had secured high marks in the first round of tawjihi held early this year, it is a matter of ensuring that they retain the same scores this time also. For those who fared badly in the first round it is a race to secure as high marks as possible to ensure that the aggregate total is at least "acceptable."

Overlooked in the equation is the psychological impact of pressure on the students, according to experts who point out that parents compound the problem by taking it upon themselves to guarantee the best possible seat for their children in Jordanian universities; "every means is used, including 'wasta' (connections) to realise the objective," said a social worker.

Since 1962, when tawjihi has been implemented, "the examination has become the determining point of the student's life and family reputation even if he or she does not want to continue his higher education," explains the social worker. "By becoming the

focus of attention of everybody and getting estimated by his/her grade in the tawjihi, the student undergoes annually all sorts of pressures not only from parents but also from school, teachers and friends and this is what makes many brilliant students fare badly in the exams or compels them to resort to terrible action," adds the social worker.

During the exams, different stories come from various corners of the Kingdom. Students who take pills or collapse suddenly while presenting their exams, students who try to attack teachers if caught cheating or students who try to commit suicide (local reports that at least two tawjihi students tried to kill themselves in the past week are a definite indicator to the trend, according to a sociologist).

While social workers blame parents and the mechanism of the educational system for the high pressure they exert on the student, senior officials at the Ministry of Education affirm that students will always have complaints even if the questions were very easy.

"We are trying gradually to change the prevailing belief that tawjihi is the only determining factor in the individual's life," explains Mohammad Sayel Obaidat, director of the Ministry of Education's Examination and Evaluation Department. There are certificates for students who do not desire to continue their education, indicating that they have accomplished the scholastic years and certificates attesting to the fact they passed tawjihi.

At present, tawjihi keeps haunting every family who has a tawjihi age child.

The parents, for the great majority, provide for him/her a "special atmosphere" and all means of comfort ranging from evacuating the house to putting an end to all social activities during that year.

"He is our only child, and if we don't show him our care and attention, he may not make it through this 'difficult' year, explains a father of a 17 year old tawjihi student. "It may be exaggerating, but we think it is worthwhile to give him the first floor to make him feel at ease without any interruption from anybody," the father adds.

Yet, the student himself seems to be indifferent to the whole story: "I really don't care for this... tawjihi. And to tell you the truth I don't like studying at all; what bothers me is my parents putting high pressure on me because they want me to have good grades. They even offered to buy me a car if I could get more than 75 and I really do not give a damn," explains the student.

Other students share the view that it is their parents who exert pressure on them. Some have admitted that they had some thoughts of suicide or taking pills that would enable them study at night. "During all the period of the exams in the first semester and now, I have been suffering from terrible thoughts that I may not succeed in this or that subject," one of the tawjihi students in the scientific stream said. I even took pep pills from my pharmacy to survive the

exams period."

The prospective tawjihi students start to prepare one year in advance. They take private lessons in the summer and go to specialised centres for all subjects: English, mathematics, physics, chemistry and even Arabic.

"I swear that most of the questions in the mathematics course which came in the tawjihi exam were given to us by a professor in the centre," affirms one student. "I trust the centre more than the school itself," he said.

Another student, apart from going to three centres during the summer, is now starting to take private lessons for the coming year. "We must prepare him from now in order to be sure he is going to get good grades," the father of the student said.

"Tawjihi exam is not really difficult, said a social worker speaking on condition of anonymity. "It is just the parents themselves and the pressure of the society that made a nightmare out of it, in all countries of the world, there is an exam for students to be accepted by the university; those students are not under the kind of social pressure our students are under."

"We are in the process of changing the educational system at all levels. The change will be effective as of the 1991-92 scholastic year. The complaints arose because of the curriculum which has been in place since the sixties."

Once the books and the system change, we hope to "end their nightmare," said Obaidat.



Prince Faisal attends celebration

AMMAN — Deputising for His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Monday attended a celebration organised by the Ministry of Youth on the occasion of the Great Arab Revolt at Al Hussein Youth City in Amman. The celebration included speeches by Minister of Youth Ibrahim Al Ghababeh and Senator Akram Zu'aiter, as well as dances and national songs by folk troupes representing various parts of the Kingdom. At the end of the celebration Ghababeh presented Prince Faisal the shield of the Ministry of Youth. The photograph shows Prince Faisal receiving a bouquet upon arrival at the palace of culture (Petra photo).

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Embassy marks Spanish king's birthday

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Spanish Embassy in Jordan Sunday celebrated the birthday of King Juan Carlos of Spain at a reception held at the new residence of the ambassador in Abdoun. The ambassador, Don Ramon Armengod, delivered a speech on the occasion saying that Spain was one of the earliest European countries to establish diplomatic ties with the Kingdom in 1948. He expressed hope that the occasion will mark the beginning of another stage of fruitful cooperation between the two countries.

ILTC made \$20.5m in 4 years

AMMAN (Petra) — The Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company (ILTC) made profits of \$20.5 million during the last four years, according to the company's annual report.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * Exhibition of paintings depicting the Jordanian environment by Adel Al Shazra, Mohammad Assad and Hani Kharazeh at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- * Exhibition entitled "La revolution: 200 ans apres" at the French Cultural Centre.
- * Exhibition of Ottoman textiles at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.
- * Art exhibition by Mohammad Al Ameri at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- * Art exhibition by Huda Qasem in the Petra Bank Hall.
- * Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zaza displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-printed fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).

LECTURES

- * Lecture entitled "Impressions about Architecture in Jordan and Palestine" by Bilal Hamoud at the Goethe Institute — 7:00 p.m.
- * A guided tour of the exhibition "Textiles from Ottoman Time" will be conducted by His Excellency Dr. Herwig Bartels, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery — 5:30 p.m.

Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation

A guided tour of the exhibition

Textiles from Ottoman Times

Conducted by

H.E. Dr. Herwig Bartels

Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany

At the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery on

Tuesday June 26, 1990 at 5:30 p.m.

Jordan Arab Investment Bank Bldg., Shmeisani - fifth floor,

Tel. 682136

OBITUARY

The families of Hakim, Tannous and their relatives and in-laws in Jordan and Lebanon deeply mourn the late: **His Excellency Dr. George Hakim** former Lebanese foreign minister and Lebanon's permanent ambassador at the United Nations

who passed away last Friday and was buried Sunday June 24, 1990 in Tripoli-Lebanon. May his soul rest in peace

Condolences can be offered to the bereaved family at the residence of Mr. George Suleiman Tannous, brother-in-law of the deceased, located in Jabal Amman — Fourth Circle in the afternoons of Wednesday and Thursday June 27 and 28, 1990. May God save you from all harm

Jordan Times

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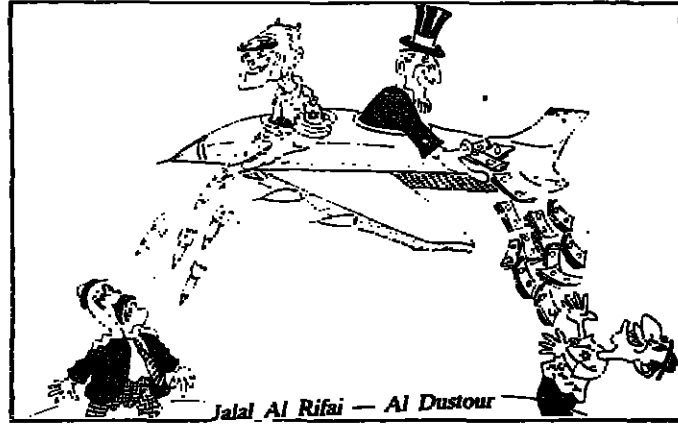
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Jordan Times advertising department.

Democratic culture taking roots

WHAT the National Bloc of the Lower House of Parliament had to say yesterday about the performance and policies of the government was of course a manifestation of the democratisation process in Jordan. The government has to study what was said and see where it was attacked and possibly respond through words as well as deeds to the points raised by the bloc; that is not only part of the evolving democracy but will also be an enlightened step towards addressing some of the core issues that we face today in our lives.

At the same time, as significant and important as the observations and criticism voiced by the National Bloc over the track record of the government in the past six months was the honest and frank way it was conveyed to the Jordanian people by the official media, including television. While the unrestricted and uncensored coverage by the official information media of anti-government criticism adds to the credibility of the country's information policy as well as the sobriety of the government itself, it also reflects the gradual evolution of well-founded democracy in the country; particularly so when considering that state-run television also offered a platform for other trends in parliament to air their observations of the viewpoints of the National Bloc. The government may even have taken some of the punch away from the criticism levelled against it by conveying it undiluted to the people and telling them what exactly is going on. Inasmuch as it is a resounding reaffirmation of the process of democratisation of the country, it is also a very healthy development which should be nurtured and preserved as an integral element of democratic culture which inspires and guides democratic norms and practices in any realm of the legislative or executive authority. It is simply not enough to have an elected parliament with clout; it is equally important that the concept of democratic culture seeps into the basic fibre of our thinking as well as actions. From what we saw and heard on Jordan Television last night, the government has understood and accepted it as an inevitable process if our democratic experiment is to bloom into full fruition. That is a realisation that should give us all comfort.



ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

THE feelings of sympathy expressed by Arab and Islamic nations with the Iranian people in the wake of the earthquake, reflect the fact that Arabs and Muslims can transcend all differences and side disputes, and stand together in time of need, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper Monday. Any harm done to any Arab or Islamic country is certain to draw the sympathy and solidarity and assistance of the rest of the Arab and Islamic nations, the paper continued. But the tragedy that befell the Iranian people has opened the eyes of all Arab and Islamic nations to the need to embark on a new stage in inter-relations and one that can restore self-confidence and help build intrinsic strength, the paper noted. It said that the Arabs and Muslims are in urgent need of true solidarity in the face of the common Zionist enemy and both sides need to form a solid front and to pool resources and efforts for the sake of protecting the Arab and Islamic nations' interests. President Saddam Hussein's call on Iran to come to the negotiating table and the favourable Iranian response, manifest the two sides' readiness to embark on serious moves to bolster Arab-Islamic relations at a time when they all are facing new challenges represented by the Jewish immigration into Palestine and conspiracies from other common enemies, added the paper. It is hoped, said the paper, that the coming meeting between Tehran and Baghdad will turn the tables on the common enemies and put an end to the looming dangers.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily describes the Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe as part of an international package deal to which both superpowers are committed. Tareq Masarweh says only through one way can Moscow help curtail the settlement of the Jews in the occupied Arab territories, and that is by issuing them passports which enable the immigrants to travel like other Soviet citizens to any country. The writer says that as long as Moscow does not issue passports for the Jews it is forcing the immigrants to go to one destination: Israel and the occupied Arab lands. As long as the Soviets and the Americans are in agreement to carry out the package deal, they simply make a mockery of their Arab friends as the Americans do through their empty promises when they say that the Jews will not settle on Arab-owned lands while they give Israel \$400 million to help them settle on Arab territories, Masarweh points out. The Arabs who went to Moscow trying to dissuade the Soviets from their present policy, have been promised that the U.N. Security Council will pass a resolution prohibiting the Jews from settling on Arab lands, but the council resolution has been vetoed by the Americans, leaving the Arabs with empty hands, the writer continues. He says if Moscow is allowing the Jews to emigrate in implementation of the Helsinki agreement, then at least it can do that in a proper manner by issuing passports to the immigrants, enabling them if necessary to return to the Soviet Union if they so desired.

The View from Fourth Circle

Dancing preachers, and the fast women of the Washington night

By Rami G. Khouri

THE relationship between the United States and the Arab World should, but probably will not, deteriorate in the wake of the American veto of the U.N. Security Council Resolution calling for the Security Council to send a fact-finding mission to the occupied Palestinian territories, and the American government's suspension of the dialogue with the PLO.

Of the two events, the suspension of the dialogue strikes me as the most unfortunate, and probably best symbolises the problem in American-Arab ties. It is, in its totality, a damning reaffirmation of the double standard which governs the United States' policy towards Palestinians and Israelis. It is also one of the primary reasons why recent peace-making efforts have made very little substantive progress, and why the entire region is shifting into a posture of, if not an inclination towards, increased confrontation and militarism.

Interesting in this respect is the statement which President Bush issued when he announced the suspension of the dialogue with the PLO. Couched in apparently balanced and reasonable language, it is, in fact, a sorry catalogue of hypocrisy, double standards, and abdication of responsibility — a show of Superpower Wimp at its worst.

The tone of the statement is characterised by unwarranted and insulting delusions of power and moral superiority. The United States said it had suspended the dialogue because the PLO had not provided a "satisfactory response" on steps it had taken to deal with the attempted seaborne attack

against Tel Aviv by Palestinian guerrillas of the Palestine Liberation Front. By placing itself in the position of moral judge of what is and what is not a satisfactory response, the United States makes the same mistake which Israel has made for many decades — the mistake of mandating itself with the moral obligation and the consequent political authority to judge the actions and the credentials of those with whom it must negotiate in order to resolve existing political and national disputes. In this same vein, Palestinians and other Arabs could easily refuse to negotiate with the United States until the Americans resolve their problems of homelessness, drug abuse, sexual promiscuity and the spread of AIDS, and low educational and health standards among minority groups. Or are these acceptable crimes because they are practised by a civilised and developed society?

The United States applies much narrower and stricter criteria to the PLO than it does to other states and national liberation movements with which it routinely deals around the world. While others are required only to provide a commitment to democratic principles and peaceful negotiations (the Afghan rebels, the Contras, the ANC, the People's Republic of China, the government of Romania, to mention only a few) the Palestinians are asked to adhere to a much higher standard of collective responsibility; they are also asked to make pledges of political behaviour that would discredit the PLO completely by making

it appear to be an aspiring boy scout inductee standing at attention in front of the American flag.

If this is a dialogue, then let the two sides talk and make progress. If it is a rite of initiation in which the PLO is supposed to join the International Fraternity of Diplomatic Wimps by stripping naked, giggling meekly and dancing for the pleasure of Henry Kissinger's grotesque diplomatic legacy, then history shall probably record that in June 1990 the PLO struck a blow for human dignity and political decency.

The fundamental imbalance which permeated President Bush's statement continues to reflect the American position that Israel is entitled to statehood, recognition and security, while the Palestinians are entitled to a throw of the diplomatic dice. Mr. Bush's precise phrasing was: "We remain committed to the pursuit of a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and to a just and lasting peace. As we have often stated, it is our view that such a peace must be based on those two resolutions, U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338, and the principle implicit therein of territory for peace, and provide for Israel's security and Palestinian political rights" my italics.

America believes that Israel is entitled to security and recognition by the Arabs, but the Palestinians are only entitled to a vague promise of "political rights." While this is a step forward from the American position of the last several decades, it is still nowhere near the impartiality that is required from a would-be mediator and

catalyst for peace. Therefore, the "peace process" remains elusive.

The attempted guerrilla attack was obviously mounted, among other reasons, to discredit the peace-making strategy of Yasser Arafat and the mainstream PLO leadership. In the short run, the PLO made the sort of response which it deemed appropriate — it repeated its policy of not using terror tactics against civilians, and stated clearly that this specific attack was not approved or organised by the PLO itself.

The United States had two choices. It could be generous and open-minded and accept the PLO statement as a sincere reaffirmation of its no-terror policy, or it could be close-minded and mean and demand the sort of specific condemnation that it knows is impossible for the PLO to make in view of the political and psychological reality of the Middle East today. The United States chose to be mean and close-minded. That's one of the privileges of sovereign states — as well as a characteristic of children, and victims of blackmail.

Therefore, it is all the more hypocritical for Mr. Bush to say, as he did last week, that "we strongly hope that Israelis, Palestinians and the Arab states will recognise these opportunities (for Palestinians in a successful peace process) and take the necessary steps to create an environment in which a viable peace process can thrive. We denounce violence in the area, and call upon all parties to eschew violence and terror, and opt instead for dialogue and negotiation." The United States, had it

wished to make a substantial contribution to creating an environment in which a viable peace process can thrive, could have responded generously and compassionately to the PLO's statements on the Tel Aviv mission.

"Were it really an impartial mediator working for peace and justice, the United States could have heeded the advice of its allies and used the opportunity to push ahead with attempts to launch a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue by reinforcing the PLO's commitment to a negotiated settlement, strengthening the hand of the Palestinian and Arab majority which still seeks to work with all concerned parties in order to resolve the conflict peacefully, and further isolating those factions on both sides which believe that terror and violence offer a solution.

Furthermore, if the United States were really serious about promoting peace talks, it would have done something about its policy of providing virtually unlimited military, economic and diplomatic support to the acts of the Israeli government. The reality is that American support for Israel allows Israel to perpetuate the full array of its illegal and inhuman policies, including sustained occupation, deportations, killings, tens of thousands of injuries by gunfire, tear gas and beatings, house demolitions, administrative detention and imprisonment of tens of thousands of Palestinians; expansion of existing settlements and building new settlements, school closures, uprooting tens of thousands of trees, expropriating about half the land of the

occupied territories, controlling water use by Palestinians, imposing excessive and punitive taxes, denying people the right to travel, and collective punishments on entire villages and towns, to mention only the most flagrant.

Certainly, these routine acts by Israel do not create the climate for peace which Mr. Bush asks for. Why, then, does his country fund and acquiesce in these policies, while occasionally criticising them verbally but doing nothing concrete to change them? And why does the United States demand moral purity from the Palestinians, while financing the Israeli moral equivalent of a brothel?

In this respect, the most disgraceful part of Mr. Bush's performance last week came in his press conference, when, talking about terror, he said that "it's not enough to simply reiterate one's concern for terror." That's precisely how we feel about American double standards vis-a-vis the Palestinians and Israelis. Look in the mirror, George! It is not enough simply to reiterate one's opposition to Israeli settlements, human rights denials, or breaches of international law — especially when you're the one paying for them.

By what moral or political criteria does George Bush have the right to demand of the Palestinians a standard of conduct which he himself does not adhere to? Those who dance with the fast ladies of the political night should not make fools of themselves by playing Sunday school teachers in the morning. Give us a break, George.



End of cold war signals danger for Third World

By Nicholas Doughty
Reuter

BRUSSELS — As Europe consigns the cold war to history, the West is turning its attention to dangers in the developing world, where the arms race is speeding up, not slowing down.

NATO officials and arms control specialists are worried that chemical and nuclear weapons technology is spreading to potentially unstable areas, while second-hand arms no longer needed in Europe are also flooding in.

"Arms control is shifting from an East-West dimension to a north-south dimension," Michael Moodie, a senior official with the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, told a Brussels conference on security.

"There will be less U.S.-Soviet rivalry in the Third World, but both of those countries will have less control over events," Richard Burt, head of the U.S. delegation at superpower arms control talks in Geneva, told the meeting.

"The potential for regional conflicts will probably grow. The spread of technology — nuclear, chemical and ballistic missile — is probably going to be the key arms control issue of the 1990s," Burt said.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) has already seized on this as a possible way to adopt a wider security role now that its old enemy, the Warsaw Pact, is collapsing.

Senior officials of the 16-nation Western alliance have suggested that NATO should become more involved in resolving regional conflicts and stopping the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

"Our concept of security... cannot ignore both the new military risks and the challenges posed by developments in the Third World," NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner said in a speech in Paris.

"I am particularly thinking of the Middle East and the countries on the fringes of the Mediterranean area," he said.

NATO diplomats cited alleged Iraqi plans to build a long-range "supergun" and its threats to use chemical weapons against Israel, reports that Libya is making chemical weapons and concern about possible nuclear conflict between India and Pakistan as examples.

"There are several countries — apart from those who publicly acknowledge having nuclear weapons — which either have such arms or the technology to produce them," said one diplomat, who asked not to be identified.

Woerner said the West's security might also be threatened by instability from poverty or explosive population growth in the developing world.

But he added: "there is no question of NATO turning itself into the world's policeman, nor of taking action outside our geographical area."

Nevertheless, senior NATO officials held an unprecedented meeting with Japanese officials in a Belgian seaside resort lately, suggesting that the alliance was looking to wider security questions now that the threat of war in Europe was receding.

U.S. Under-Secretary of State for Defence Paul Wolfowitz told the meeting that Japan and the Western world should join forces to safeguard their security.

"In many parts of the globe, nationalism, ethnic hatred and religious intolerance have not abated. Indeed, they have in some measure gained new force from the end of the cold war," he said.

"We cannot tell whether these forces will directly threaten the centres of liberal democratic power, but they might."

German unity talks — a high stakes poker game

By Tom Heneghan
Reuter

EAST BERLIN — Talks on German unification are becoming a lopsided poker game in which five players are convinced the sixth one — Moscow — is bluffing.

But the five — the United States, Britain, France and the two Germans — are determined to keep the Soviet Union at the table and in no hurry to call its hand.

The grand prize in the "two-plus-four" game is the united German superstate to be born in December.

Having battled the Germans twice in this century, the Westerners insist on having the new fatherland firmly anchored in their military alliance, NATO.

But Moscow, even more worried about Germany and fearing it could be squeezed out of the European power game, has begun to raise its bets and force the pace of the game it cannot win.

"What we are looking for is a replacement for the World War II peace treaty that never was," said Hans-Juergen Misselwitz, a dissident pastor turned senior foreign ministry official in the new, non-communist East Germany. "We're playing high-stakes poker now."

Moscow's latest bid — a full draft agreement to slash all troops in Germany in half but extend the wartime allies' ultimate rights over the one-time enemy for another five years — surprised the Western side and got a prompt rejection.

"I was underwhelmed," said U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, who went furthest in criticising the Soviet idea as a plot to keep Germany from becoming a fully sovereign state 45 years after the defeat of Hitler's Third Reich.

The proposal showed such a wide gap between Western and Soviet views that the six foreign ministers who met here agreed to have their experts work overtime to bridge it before the November deadline they have set for themselves.

Their next planned meetings — in Paris next month and Moscow in September — will almost certainly be followed by an October session in London.

All sides say they want to present a complete settlement to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) in Paris this November.

Behind Moscow's hard line, which Western officials saw mainly as a move to show toughness to concerned citizens, are clear signals the Soviet delegation will not block a deal.

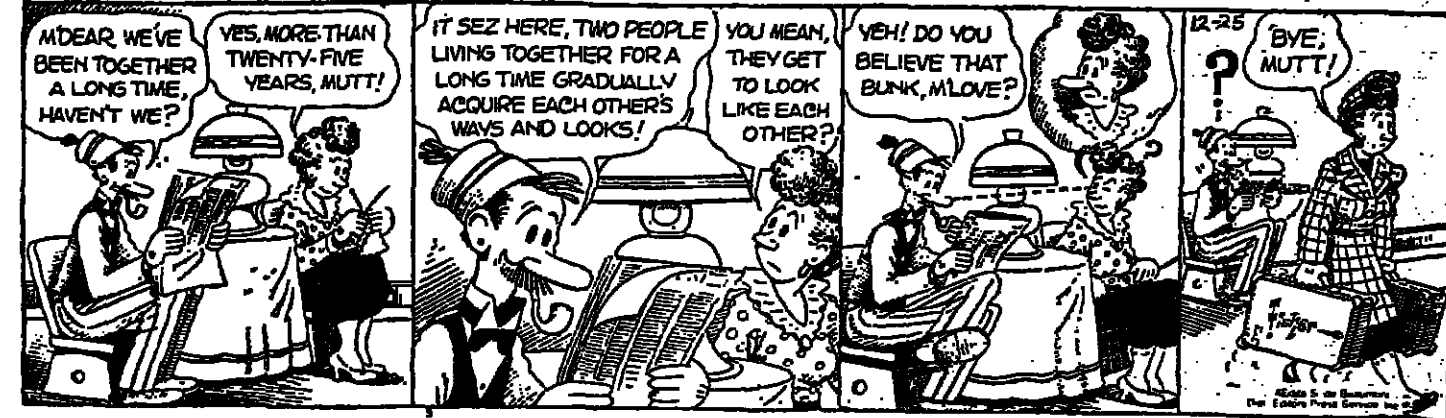
"The provisions of our draft are not regarded by us as the final truth," Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told reporters.

"We are ready to seek compromise approaches. We intend to have a final agreement... before the end of the year."

His French counterpart, Roland Dumas, said Soviet officials frequently asked the Westerners how relations between NATO and the Warsaw Pact will look when the post-war era is finally over.

"They wouldn't do that if they weren't looking for a compromise," he said.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



After struggling for freedom Zimbabwe women want more

By Laney Library
Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe — Joyce Mujuru fought so fiercely in the war for independence that she earned the name "spill blood." Now, 10 years later, she fights for women's rights in a male-dominated culture.

Mujuru, 35, is minister of community development in President Robert Mugabe's government and finds the new battle, in its own way, as daunting as the old one.

"We have come a long way since independence, but there is still a lot of work to be done educating people about women's rights," she said in an interview.

Women were a strong force in the seven-year war that ended nine decades of white minority rule and transformed Rhodesia, a British colony, into independent, black-ruled Zimbabwe.

In the civil war, she said, "we fought side by side with our men and they realised we deserved what we were asking — laws giving women equal rights."

Many women ferried arms, sheltered fighters or were spies for the insurgents. Others engaged in combat. It was said that Joyce Mujuru was the first woman to shoot down a Rhodesian helicopter.

Since independence, laws that once barred them from certain jobs and denied them full legal rights have been repealed. They can make contracts, own land and are no longer regarded legally as minors.

But a woman historian, who asked not to be identified, said: "women have retrogressed since independence. They only made progress because of their contribution to the war, but now men



From rigour to rigour — these young women are moving into the country for an altogether different kind of war.

in government are asserting traditional attitudes."

Turmoil has accompanied change in this African nation of 9.5 million people, more than half of whom are women.

Wife beating, rape and baby murders are on the rise. Reports appear almost daily of newborns found abandoned in ditches, tossed into bushes, jammed into sewer pipes, even buried alive.

Elizabeth Rider of women's action group, blames the "baby dumping" and illegal backstreet abortions on economic and social stresses facing women.

"Changes in traditional culture are not keeping up with rapid urbanisation, and women are taking the brunt of it," she said.

In African villages, grandmothers and aunts traditionally advise young girls about sex. Without that help, many schoolgirls in cities and towns become pregnant, Rider said.

Faced with expulsion from school and shame in a culture that ostracises single mothers, they

often have little choice but self-induced abortions, and some even kill their babies, she said.

Farm women still do most of the work in the fields while men sit under the trees drinking homebrew.

"My husband does the planning and I do the work," said Susan Marewa, a farmer in north-eastern Zimbabwe.

Male judges carry traditions rooted in polygamy and male domination into their courtrooms.

One magistrate, after hearing the case of a man who beat his wife to death because she refused to cook him a meal, fined the man 250 Zimbabwe dollars (\$100) and set him free. The woman had "asked for trouble," the judge said.

Another obstacle to sexual equality is the bride price. A cow and two goats were considered a good sum 50 years ago, but some fathers now demand several thousand dollars for a university-educated daughter.

National Bloc criticises cabinet

(Continued from page 1)

Committee of the House, listed eight points outlining the bloc's "opinion on the government's performance." These included the government's economic policy, supply of basic food commodities, water and agriculture, municipal affairs, health services, youth affairs, public administration and investigations into corruption cases.

"On the economic front the bloc recognises that the government has not submitted a clear economic policy, but only settled for addressing certain problems," the statement said.

The statement criticised the prime minister for reneging on his promise not to lift subsidies without consulting Parliament. It also criticised the government for the lack of a comprehensive and clear agricultural policy.

On the subject of investigation into corruption cases, the statement criticised the government for taking a position of "negative neutrality," which "might abort the public demand" for thorough investigations.

Ensour said the bloc was not asking the government to resign nor was it asking for a reshuffle. "We only want the government to carry out its programme as contained in its policy statement upon which we gave it our confidence."

Ensour, who claimed the bloc has a membership of 22 deputies

including "some" ministers, hinted that his bloc may call for a new vote of confidence in the government.

"This is only a signal," he said of the bloc's statement. "It is in fact the second signal," he said. "We believe that there is a need for a whole new crew (cabinet) that has the people's confidence."

There are many qualified people who have very good reputation" to fill the cabinet posts, he said.

Ensour, a former minister of planning, said that the bloc was not happy with the limited reshuffle of the cabinet two weeks ago. He said that the reshuffle was "weak" and only "misplaced" ministers and that the National Bloc had not asked for the reshuffle.

Ensour said that the statement he read was formulated by the bloc's members excluding cabinet members. Informed sources say that Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Kabariti and Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Affairs Karim Al Dughmi are both members of the bloc. They could not be reached for comment.

Ensour described the bloc as centrist between the Islamists on the right and leftists. He described the members as "men of Jordan, the state and the regime, who want to preserve the Constitution and work within its framework."

Deputy Abdul Latif Arabiyat, spokesman of the 22-member

Muslim Brotherhood in the House, said his group did not necessarily agree with all the points raised by the National Bloc since its programmes were drawn up much before the government of Mudar Badran was formed. "Our bloc is distinguished for its reform-oriented programmes with defined goals in parliamentary work, in drawing up projects and in reacting to different situations in Parliament," Arabiyat told Jordan Television.

He said his bloc, which has announced its programmes and objectives on numerous occasions before and after the vote of confidence in the Badran government, "believes in respecting differing viewpoints and reform programmes."

Democratic Bloc Deputy Basam Haddadin said members of his group had adopted a unified position vis-a-vis several issues discussed in the House, implying that the 12-member bloc did not always have a common position among its members on any given issue. Haddadin conceded that the bloc was not very well organised and that efforts were continuing to "reorganise and reactivate it."

He said the bloc's members were scheduled to hold a meeting next week in a bid to arrive at a joint platform. Deputy Mohammad Alawneh, spokesman for the Independent Bloc in the House, said the basic motivation behind the formation of his group was to save time in proceedings in Parliament.

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Jordan Times

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W. European leaders meet to press ahead with unity

Kohl and French President

The Dutch government Monday proposed creation a European energy community aimed partly at helping the Soviet Union develop key resources.

Egypt to sustain current oil production — MEES

mand from its growing gas reserves, MEES quoted Kandeel as saying.

Projects under consideration would increase Egypt's gas production to around 1.1-1.2

Egypt-IMF talks end without accord

NEW YORK (Agencies) — A West German bank and a French

Under a proposed plan, the banks would extend Trump money to make overdue payments on the bond issue and suspend some payments on his \$2

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Something comes up of a financial or practical nature that needs to be carefully scrutinized in order to

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Much discussion with a sensitive associate can bring to light the congenial aspects of your relationship and how to improve some joint project.

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Maele
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19 Journey
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(with "The")
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26 — off (leave)
30 Tell — and
stick to it
(Swinburne)
31 Once upon
32 Medico
35 Pause
39 Skeddaddie
40 Sea eagles

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DOWN	28	Charger		
1 Caesar's partner	29	Sound for a villain	42 Counterfeiter	50 Flex
2 Face shape	31	Diarist Frank	43 White House residents	51 Bouquet
3 "— smile be your..."	32	Devil's lead-in	44 Peruvian	52 Turn down
4 Curve	33	Of the ears	45 Show bid org.	53 Genesis name
5 "— Fideles"	34	Converse	46 Ill-biting	54 Refrain
6 Instructively	35	Firelead	47 Stimulate	55 syllable
7 Dismounted	37	Killer whale	48 Sidestep	56 Operated
	38	Lat up	49	57 Bite

"I forget what I was cooking. It's either catfish, butterscotch pudding, or salad."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LOUFT

[A grid of squares for unscrambling letters]


A cartoon illustration shows three men in top hats standing near a street lamp. One man is looking at a sign that reads "Health Club".

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Yesterday's | Jumble: PROBE DELVE ADJOIN MUTTON
Answer: She'll no longer stand for being painted
A TIRED MODEL.

Growing tissue culture date palms in a green house

New firm plans to export date palms by next year

plied Agriculture Research in Amman "will be of the highest yield and totally disease free," according to Qasem. In addition, he said, the technology

Qasem noted that Esca Genetics is involved in conducting research for several major food manufacturers in

ing production of a new attack vehicle and night vision goggles for military purposes, computers and thermal images, and has signed an agreement with an American com-

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1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 277: 1033-1036.

54

"I forget what I was cooking. It's either catfish, butterscotch pudding, or salad."

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A cartoon illustration shows three men in top hats standing near a street lamp. One man is pointing towards a sign that reads "Heath Club".

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Yesterday's | Jumble: PROBE DELVE ADJOIN MUTTON
Answer: She'll no longer stand for being painted
A TIRED MODEL.

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Shocked Brazil weeps after World Cup defeat

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Soccer-mad Brazilians wept and wept in the streets Sunday after the national team was beaten by Argentina and eliminated from the World Cup.

As the final whistle blew in Turin, sealing Brazil's 1-0 defeat, Rio's normally exuberant citizens fell into a stunned silence.

Heads bowed, they streamed away from the giant television sets in the streets and started to rip down the flags and streamers suspended from lamp-posts and balconies.

Police along the main beachfront avenue in Rio slumped weeping over the wheels of their patrol cars, oblivious to rampaging fans who were smashing themselves against the shutters or nearby buildings and looting bottles into the air.

In Sao Paulo, street bands forlornly packed up their equipment. "There's nothing to dance about now. Forget it," said one guitarist.

The mood of despair and sadness stretched right across the nation. In southern Florianopolis, only a few hundred kilometres from the border with Argentina, the few cars in the streets had black pennants attached to their radio aerials.

"I've got the cry of 'goal' stuck in my throat," said one fan in Rio, referring to the many moments in the game when a dominant Brazil almost scored — but never did.

The crowd's anger was mostly directed at coach Sebastiao Lazaroni, whose defensive playing strategy has been despised by Brazilians who remember the golden days of Pelé.

"I'm going to support Cameroon now because they've got a far better team than our team," one supporter said. "They have guts. They know how to score a goal when it counts."

Brazil's bitterly disappointed players were still inconsolable Monday as they made their earliest World Cup exit for 24 years.

"Diego (Maradona) came to the dressing-room to try to console me but it was impossible," lamented Maradona's Napoli teammate Careca, almost in tears.

A moment of wizardry from Maradona ended Brazil's dream of a record fourth World Cup when they were toppled 1-0 after running Argentina ragged

throughout Sunday's second round match.

Other players also had difficulty coming to terms with defeat and midfielder Alemão said: "It is some sort of sick joke that we are now out of the competition."

The 80th minute breakaway goal by Claudio Caniggia capped virtually the only attack mounted by Argentina.

"In 1986 we were knocked out by France in an even match but this is so much harder to take because we completely dominated the Argentines," Careca added.

The result gave holders Argentina their first ever World Cup victory over Brazil and justified an earlier warning by former Brazilian star Pelé.

"If we keep playing like this we will be beaten by the first top-class team we meet," Pelé said after the opening round.

Zico, one of a long line of brilliant Brazilian playmakers, attributed Sunday's defeat to a lack of midfield creativity.

The unadventurous safety-first policy of Lazaroni has been widely criticised, but even in defeat Lazaroni defended his 3-5-2 tactics.

"The defeat does not mean the end of this system. The main problem was our inability to finish off the chances we made," he said. "No system is more important than the talent of the players and I still insist that ours brought out the best in them."

But change is still on the cards because Lazaroni is due to take over Italian league club Fiorentina and his successor would be a brave man to stick with tactics thoroughly detested by Brazil's fans.

Some, dejected and in tears after the match, doubted whether the world would ever again marvel at the kind of football seen in Brazil's golden era when they won three World Cups between 1958 and 1970.

"In the old days our team were all based in Brazil but now most of them are playing abroad and are forced into a different style," one said. Only three of Sunday's team were home-based.

But there is no doubt that Brazil's huge pool of talent will ensure the team will bounce back and be among the favourites for the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

Britain seeks to stay atop Belgium

BOLOGNA (R) — England, missing the drive and sheer presence of captain Bryan Robson, will be seeking to maintain a historic soccer dominance over Belgium and clinch a place in the World Cup quarter-finals Tuesday.

Belgium, who finished third in the 1986 finals in Mexico, have beaten England only once in 17 meetings and it is 55 years since they last won — 3-2 in Brussels.

But history will count for little when the teams meet for the first time since the riot-marred 1-1 draw in Turin during the 1980 European championship finals.

Only two players survive from that game which marked the emergence of Belgium as a major force under the wily Guy Thys. They are defender Eric Gerets and striker Jan Ceulemans, Belgium's soccer that day.

Belgium, under Thys, will be keen to improve not only on their previous record but also show the sort of form which swept aside Uruguay during their opening round fixtures in Group E.

Like England, who won Group F, they have a team built on experience and a once solid, but now ageing, defence.

But while England qualified for the finals without conceding a goal and conceded only one in the opening round, Belgium let in five during the qualifying tournament and a further three in Group E.

Belgium's vulnerability to sharp counter-attacking teams was shown up by Spain in the opening round when they were without Gerets, through suspension, and Leo Cluytjens, Georges Grün and Bruno Versavel through injury. All are expected to return against England.

Gerets, 36, sent off against Uruguay, will return to right back against England to mark John Barnes in what may prove to be one of the most influential duels of an encounter between two combative but contrasting teams.

While Belgium, with the elegant Enzo Scifo threading pinpoint passes in midfield, possess several highly skilled players and tend to fill midfield and attack on the break, England rely on a more direct approach and the marksmanship of Gary Lineker, top scorer in the 1986 finals in Mexico.

England manager Bobby Robson is well aware of Belgium's potential if Scifo is allowed to control a game.

Argentines celebrate famous surprise victory

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentines cried, embraced and took to the streets shouting "Argentina, Argentina" as they celebrated their national soccer team's surprise 1-0 victory over Brazil Sunday in the World Cup.

Many could hardly believe current champions Argentina, who had barely made it past the first round, had defeated the Brazilians, one of the favourites to win the tournament.

Television commentators sobbed on camera thanking forward Claudio Caniggia for giving Argentina the winning goal.

President Carlos Menem was as delighted as any. "It's incredible, it's incredible... we played badly, but a goal is a goal is a goal," he said in a television interview after the match.

"The boys played hard, never considering themselves the underdogs. They lost their bearings during the first few minutes but then they pulled their act together and pinned a gold brooch on the match with 10 minutes left to play with a spectacular goal," he added.

Some said luck was on Argentina's side this time around, as many of the Brazilians best shots hit the goalpost.

"During the first half I thought we would lose, as they pinned us down in our goal area... but we won, we won," said office worker Jorge Quinones.

"I'm so happy I feel like crying," said sanitation worker Luis Souza. "They had a better team than we did, but we had a chance to score and we took it."

The expected World Cup battle Sunday of the South American giants turned into an Argentine ambush instead, laid by Diego Maradona.

As Argentina marched, albeit unsteadily, into the quarter-finals, a perplexed Brazil were dumped out of the competition, completely at a loss to understand how they could rout the opposition so completely and still lose.

The answer was Maradona, a general with no real troops but with a faithful lieutenant in Claudio Caniggia, on hand to deliver the killer blow when the cause seemed hopeless.

After 80 minutes of overwhelming Brazilian pressure pushed the world champions to the brink of second round capitulation, Maradona found the perfect pass and Caniggia did the rest to give Argentina a 1-0 second round win.

"Brazil did not deserve to lose," Maradona said afterwards, a cherubic look of innocence on his face if he was aware that something akin to divine intervention had taken place.

It was the understatement of the World Cup finals. The match was as one-sided as West Germany's crushing 5-1 win over the United Arab Emirates or Czechoslovakia's victory over the United States by the same score.

But Brazil somehow failed to score and their trainer Sebastiao Lazaroni, whose team hit the woodwork three times, was as bewildered as anyone.

"It's difficult for me to explain this result after we played so well and creatively and did everything except score," he said.

"We tried our hearts out and nobody could ask any more of us. We had at least 12 good scoring chances in the match," he noted.

Since losing the opening match to Cameroon, Argentina's shortcomings as a team have been painfully obvious.

Relying almost totally on one player and on a large element of luck, they hardly rate comparison with the team which won the 1986 World Cup in Mexico.

So far, the combination of Maradona and good fortune has worked and they go on to a quarter-final clash with Spain or Yugoslavia in Florence Saturday praying that the Gods will smile on them yet again.

They were extremely fortunate to get through their group. Had the referee spotted Maradona's handball on his own goal-line, they might not have beaten the Soviet Union.

The point they gained against Romania to clinch qualification was also right against the run of play.

The Argentine goal in that game, a Pedro Monzon header, was also made by Maradona.

Plagued by a knee injury and with a swollen left ankle which required five pain-killing injections at halftime in Sunday's match, Maradona is rarely able to show what a genius he is.

Spaniards keep Yugoslavs wondering

VERONA (R) — Yugoslav manager Ivica Osim Monday delayed a decision on whether to bolster his attack or his defence for the World Cup second round clash with Spain.

Keeping his options open until the last minute, Osim named 10 of the team he will field Tuesday but said he still had to make his final choice.

Osim confirmed he would keep striker Darko Pancev — who scored twice against the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to secure Yugoslavia's place in the second round — as well as bring back Srecko Katanec after a knee injury.

The team will be based on the side that played the second half against the UAE. Osim said the last remaining place will be decided between defender Vujadin Stanovickovic and striker Zlatko Vujovic.

Spanish manager Luis Suarez has already named an unchanged team from the one which beat Belgium last Thursday.

Suarez said Monday that teamwork, and not one individual star, would win the game.

"It's the team that counts," Suarez said after a training session at Verona stadium.

"There's been criticism against strikers who haven't scored, another day it's the midfield who are attacked," he said.

Suarez was confident his squad contains plenty of potential match winners, not just midfielder Michel who has scored four goals so far.

"We've got five or six players who can do it," he said. "Michel has been hailed as a phenomenon but another day it will be someone else who's the hero."

Spain's captain and striker Emilio Butragueno, whose turn to shine again is long overdue, did not intend to allow his own goal famine to get him down.

Ireland wins penalty shoot-out against Romania

GENOA (R) — Ireland blazed to a 5-4 win in a dramatic penalty shoot-out against Romania Monday to reach the World Cup quarter-finals after a lacklustre 0-0 extra-time draw.

The first penalty shoot-out of the tournament took the excitement to fever pitch after 120 minutes in which thrills were thin on the ground.

The teams were level at 4-4 in the shoot-out until Irish goalkeeper Pat Bonner saved Romania's fifth penalty from Daniel Timofte.

Veteran David O'Leary then slotted home the fifth for Ireland to send his team through to a quarter-final meeting with Italy or Uruguay in Rome Saturday.

Timofte, a 22-year-old extra-time substitute, hit the ball to the right of Bonner who maintained his excellent World Cup form with a spring-heeled dive.

One nail-biting minute later a O'Leary, also an extra time substitute, drove home a fierce shot to send Ireland through to the last eight and cause yet another World Cup upset.

It was a dream finish for Ireland, the runners-up in group F who had not been expected to make any further progress in their first World Cup.

O'Leary's penalty took Ireland's unbeaten run to 17 matches but inflicted a cruel blow to Romania, who had fought hard in a tough physical match.

The thousands of Irish fans at the match erupted into song and dance as Manager Jack Charlton, too nervous to watch the penalties, went immediately to Romanian Manager Emerich Jenei to shake his head.

At the same time Timofte looked a thoroughly wretched figure as he replayed the missed penalty in his mind.

All four previous Romanian shots had been bang on target and the inexperienced Dinamo

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THE POWER OF THE TRUMP SUIT
Both vulnerable. North deals.
NORTH
♠ A Q 8 5 2
♥ A K J 9
♦ A 3
♣ A K 3
EAST
♠ K 9 7 6 3
♥ 7 4
♦ K J 9 6 5 4
♣ 10 7
SOUTH
♠ 4
♥ A Q 10 8 3
♦ Q 8 2
♣ Q J 10 6
The bidding:
North East South West
2 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 5 ♣ Pass
6 ♠ Pass 7 ♣ Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ♠
We have only one thing to say to those of our readers who like to bid 'em up. You had better be sure of card-play technique, or have a fat wallet!
North's hand, with its ruffing value and plethora of prime cards, was worth considerably more than its face value of 21 points in high cards. To describe this high-quality hand raise, North started by cue-bidding the suit in which he had the strongest holding. South's jump to five hearts showed a good hand, but no ace. Therefore, North's grand slam

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فيلم 1 من 1

Key Solidarity figures desert Walesa in first formal split

WARSAW (AP) — Participants in a stormy meeting of Solidarity political leaders in effect have laid to rest the united movement that only last year toppled Communist rule in Poland, commentators said Monday.

"What has ended is not only the time of heroic solidarity," said Konstantin Gebert, one of the best-known Solidarity journalists, who uses the pseudonym Dawid Warszawski.

"What has ended, simply put, is the idea of Solidarity as a united community fighting against evil. In the auditorium they only issued the death certificate," Gebert wrote in Monday's *Zycie Warszawy* daily.

At Sunday's meeting, 63 of Lech Walesa's senior advisers and longtime allies in the movement broke ranks with him. They called in a letter for the dissolution of the National Citizens Committee — Solidarity's political arm since 1988 — saying its time had past.

The 63 represent almost everyone in the original national Citizens Committee, once Walesa's closest allies in his struggle to make the Communists share power with opposition forces.

But now they differ with the union chairman over his criticisms of the government of Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki and what Walesa considers the slow pace of economic reform.

The former allies also disagree with Walesa's drive to become president of Poland and his open-

ing the Citizens Committee to members of other political groups.

Walesa, in a last-minute plea, delayed for one month a vote by the entire 200-member committee on the letter.

"Let's think it over. Maybe there are solutions for our further joint path," the Solidarity chairman said.

Technically, the 63 still remain in the committee and it is not dissolved. But for practical purposes, the division appears irrevocable.

Those lining up against Walesa include his best-known lieutenants in the Solidarity movement: Zbigniew Bujak, Adam Michnik, Bronislaw Geremek, Jacek Kuron, Henryk Wujec and Wladyslaw Frasyniuk.

"This is no longer a committee whose wisdom the chairman uses," said Bujak, the leader of underground Solidarity during the martial-law years. "This is a committee where a strange contest for position is taking place. Whoever supports, whoever flatters, receives a post. That means that my participation in the committee is ending."

"Besides, just as I did not fear the Communists or the police, I will not fear you, Mr. Walesa," he said.

Chairman," he continued, addressing Walesa.

Mazowiecki stayed away from the meeting. But in a speech in Szczecin, he appealed for national unity until the country completes painful economic reforms.

"The greatness of the tasks we are facing today requires an emphasis on going through the most difficult time together. ... It requires a broad democratic consensus and avoiding a demagogic bidding war" of political promises, Mazowiecki said.

The emotional debate among Citizens Committee members was tinged with sadness and anger.

"I have a feeling that I have lost something," said Geremek, leader of the Solidarity caucus in parliament, taking the floor near the end of the day.

"In our movement, there used to be no leader, there were no servants. There were citizens. There were friends. ... What happened?" he asked, addressing Walesa.

Michnik told Walesa he had no right to say who could use the name of Solidarity. Michnik is editor of Poland's largest daily paper, *Gazeta Wyborcza*, whose use of the Solidarity logo Walesa is disputing.

"Nobody can take away our struggle, not even you, Lech," he said.

The veteran Solidarity activists want the Citizens Committee, recently packed with new members beholden to Walesa, to be dissolved so they can create a movement that would support Mazowiecki — another former leading Solidarity figure — and remain true to Solidarity's historic ideals.

Opening the meeting, Walesa pleaded for the two sides to work out problems together through candid discussions.

But at the same time, Walesa strengthened his hold on the committee by winning the resignation of Wujec, the committee's long-time secretary, who had sided with the opposing faction.

Walesa said his recent criticisms of the government, including a vow to create a "war at the top," have been intended to help the prime minister by conveying the frustrations of workers and farmers eager for faster improvements in their lives.

At the start of the meeting, the Solidarity chairman summoned the 80-year-old newspaper editor Jerzy Turowicz to the podium to explain his complaints against Walesa. The tone of Walesa's call for the respected Turowicz, who managed to preserve Poland's single independent newspaper in the 1960s and 1970s, angered many of Walesa's former friends.

The tone of Walesa's supporters at the meeting was "excited, threatening, brutal," *Gazeta Wyborcza* said Monday.

Turowicz, who said he had not planned to speak, defended Mazowiecki's government. He said the government's programme of economic reforms "is the only possible road now, although it's difficult."

China allows dissidents to leave for U.K.

PEKING (R) — Dissident scientist Fang Lizhi and his wife, sheltered in the U.S. embassy in Peking since last June, left China for Britain Monday after Chinese officials said, they showed "signs of repentance."

Fang and his wife, Li Shuxian, took refuge in the U.S. embassy on June 5, 1989, a day after the Communist leadership sent troops and tanks into Tiananmen Square to crush student-led pro-democracy demonstrations.

The Ministry of Public Security said the couple would seek medical treatment abroad.

"Mr. and Mrs. Fang are on their way to the U.K.," a British embassy spokesman said.

"In view of the signs of repentance by Fang Lizhi and Li Shuxian and their illness and out of humanitarian considerations, the Peking Public Security Bureau has decided to allow them to go abroad for medical treatment in line with China's policy of leniency towards those who participated in the disturbances," the ministry said.

Fang and his wife "have been given lenient treatment today and have gone abroad for medical treatment," the ministry said, as quoted by the official New China News Agency (NCNA).

The U.S. embassy refused all comment.

The departure of Fang, a prominent astrophysicist, and his wife resolves a major diplomatic stand-off between China and the United States that came after Peking issued a warrant for the couple's arrest in June last year. China has demanded since that Washington hand them over.

Fang, 54, and his wife, a lecturer in astrophysics at prestigious Peking University, wrote recently to "the Chinese departments concerned" admitting they had opposed the Communist Party's four cardinal principles, the ministry said. These are adherence to the socialist road, to the people's democratic dictatorship, to the leadership of the Communist Party and to Marxism-Leninism and Mao Tse-tung thought.

The couple said in their letter they had therefore violated China's constitution, the ministry said.

"They expressed the hope to get permission to go abroad for medical treatment as they are ill. They have said they will not engage in activities directed against China after they leave the country," it said.

Arrest warrants were issued for both Fang and his wife last June and they were accused of "crimes of counter-revolutionary propaganda and instigation," offences that in Communist China are tantamount to treason.

Fang played no public role in the 1989 student campaign for political reform, but the leadership clearly saw him as a major inspiration behind what they have since officially termed a counter-revolutionary rebellion.

Fang decided to seek refuge in the U.S. embassy after orchestrated pro-government demonstrators burned him in effigy, blaming him for a string of evils including rising prices.

Sri Lankan troops begin clearing Batticaloa mines

COLOMBO (AP) — Columns of foot soldiers and armoured cars rolled into the eastern coastal town of Batticaloa Monday, clearing the streets of booby traps and land mines laid by fleeing Tamil guerrillas.

Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne told reporters the troops "inched their way into Batticaloa this morning," a week after the government claimed to have secured the town 220 kilometres east of Colombo.

In the northern Jaffna district, meanwhile, rebels appeared to have the upper hand, continuing a 13-day-old siege on the Jaffna Fort which houses a strategic military garrison. They also rained mortars and rockets on a vital airstrip near the fort.

The Jaffna district, which is mostly Tamil, is the militant's stronghold.

The government reported killing seven more rebels. So far, more than 1,430 combatants and many civilians have died in two weeks of war.

Soldiers in the east consolidated their positions in the outskirts of Batticaloa, where tensions sparked the renewal of fighting June 11, military officials said.

Residents of the town have said they fear government soldiers would kill them because most of the town is Tamil and most of the soldiers are Sinhalese. But Wijeratne said security forces have been instructed to prevent reprisals by any group.

The fighting broke out two weeks ago after a Tamil man claimed he was manhandled by Sinhalese police. Tamil guerrillas then, attacked a string of police stations in the east. The bloodshed ended a tenuous 13-month ceasefire between the government and the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) militia.

Wijeratne said the government has not tried to resume mediation with the Tigers, but would open negotiations if the rebels laid down their arms.

"If we make efforts to talk, it would be a sign of weakness. Also we do not want to give them oxygen to breathe and regroup," the minister said.

He claimed the government forces were in control of Trincomalee and Mannar towns in the east and most of the northern Vavuniya district.

"Our troops are moving forward swiftly and the Tiger cadres are withdrawing to the jungles of moving north," he said.

The Tamil Tigers withdrew from Batticaloa last week, but military officials said the retreat was a tactical move and the guerrillas were preparing for a hit-and-run jungle war.

On Monday, commandos shot to death five rebels during combat operations in Pottuvil town in the eastern Ampara district, 225 kilometres east of Colombo, the officials said.

Steel-helmeted soldiers, standing 10 metres apart with rifles at the ready, stop all vehicles and pedestrians in the city's old quarter while armoured vehicles cruise through the crowded lanes.

Soldiers, crouched in sandbagged bunkers, level machine guns at entrances to the twisting lanes from where militants have launched many hit and run attacks.

"If somebody falls ill, he has to die in his house," said Shefi Mohammad, a shopkeeper in the old city. "We simply cannot get medicine. We stay hungry during curfew."

One charge filed by Farooqi's group, citing local police reports, alleges that a border security force patrol fired on a bus carrying a wedding party in Badagham, a valley town 55 kilometres north of Srinagar, last month.

The petition to the court says one person was shot dead and the groom seriously injured, while the patrol abducted the bride and a bridesmaid and raped them repeatedly before freeing them two days later.

The petition also alleges Indian soldiers rounded up youths in Kupwara, near the border with Pakistan, and tortured them with branding irons and electric shocks to the genitals.

Workers cannot go to their jobs and parents do not send their children to school for fear they will be picked up by the security forces, it says.

Banks are rarely open and even then sometimes refuse withdrawals, pleading shortage of cash.

"The government of India is using the most barbarous methods of suppression," said Abdul Ahid Gura, a heart surgeon at Srinagar's Institute of Medical Sciences.

Johny Konoh, 28, a hospital orderly, says he was shot by a rebel on June 1. He said there was no provocation and he was wearing his blue-and-white uniform with a red cross on its chest.

The rebels insist on calling themselves freedom fighters.

"I want for my country to be free and for our CIC (Commander-in-Chief Taylor) to rule Liberia," said Leaman Bishop, 19, as he stood guard duty with an AK-47 rifle outside the Buchanan supermarket. "I will fight until victory is ours."

She says she wants to be a doctor so she can cure diseases, adding, "Samuel Doe is a disease we must eradicate."

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Kashmiris reportedly starved by Indian troops

SRINAGAR, India (R) — People in the Kashmir Valley are living in a virtual prison, starved of food and medicine and brutalised by Indian security forces, doctors and human-rights advocates said Monday.

"Life for Kashmiris now is like that of prisoners," said former Chief Justice Mufti Bahauddin Farooqi in an interview at his home.

The quietly spoken Farooqi, 62, is chairman of the Jammu and Kashmir People's Basic Rights Protection Committee.

His group filed 40 charges last week in the state high court, formerly headed by Farooqi, alleging a "reign of terror" by Indian security forces, mass killings, rape, illegal arrest, torture of detainees and thefts during house-to-house searches.

The group says curfews and "indiscriminate firings have brought business to a grinding halt... in a deliberate economic stranglehold by the government."

More than 700 people have been killed since a militant campaign for an independent Kashmir burst into open revolt on Jan. 20 in India's only Muslim-majority state.

India has vowed to crush the militants, whom it says are armed and trained by neighbouring Pakistan. Pakistan denies the charges.

The state government had no immediate reaction to the human-rights allegations but Governor Girish Saxena, in office for a month, has promised to rein in security forces, saying: "Our intention is that no innocent person is hurt or harassed."

Parts of Srinagar, summer capital of Kashmir and the centre of the anti-India revolt, look like war zones.

Japan to take more active role in new world order, Kaifu says

TOKYO (AP) — Japan will take an active role in the new world order emerging after the collapse of Communism and the unification of Europe, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Monday.

"From now on, Japan will go into the world, and if there is a request from the other side, we will have no hesitation in offering our cooperation," Kaifu told a symposium on the role of Japan in the new world.

Japan surpassed the United States and became the biggest donor of government aid to developing nations in 1989, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development said Monday in Paris.

Japan, which has come under criticism for not spending enough

of its wealth on foreign aid, gave \$9 billion last year, compared to \$7.7 billion from the United States.

"Democracy, freedom and a market economy must be the framework for any country offered assistance," Kaifu told the conference, sponsored by the Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Japan's foremost economic newspaper.

He said Japan should offer not only economic aid to Asian nations and the emerging democratic market economies of Eastern Europe, but also technical assistance and "cultural, spiritual and intellectual contacts."

In the tripartite system comprising Europe, Japan and the United States, U.S.-Japanese and U.S.-European relations are

strong, he said. But Japan should work to strengthen the "weak link" between Japan and Europe, which becomes a single market in 1992, he added.

He noted that Japan has sent peace corps-style volunteers to Asian countries including China, and said they also could be sent to Eastern Europe to teach Japanese-style management.

He said Polish reform leader Lech Walesa has told him "he wants Poland to be a second Japan — with peace, freedom and abundant life in every household."

The split between Communist and democratic systems may be harder to heal in Asia than in Europe, but Japan should do its part to help, Kaifu said.

Poll shows Soviet party authority falling

MOSCOW (R) — A poll conducted a week before a crucial Soviet Communist Party congress shows that its authority is continuing to slide, the party daily Pravda said Monday.

Just 18 per cent of those polled were firmly convinced the party was the leading force in Soviet society, the newspaper said. More than half — 53 per cent — did not consider it the leading force.

"This means the authority of the CPSU (Communist Party of the Soviet Union) is continuing to fall," Pravda said.

Fifteen hundred Soviet citizens in 18 different regions of the country were polled during the founding congress last week in Moscow of the new Russian Communist Party, Pravda said.

The poll was conducted by the Centre of Sociological Research, an institute run by the party's policy-making Central Committee.

The Russian Communist Party, newly-founded in the Russian Federation, the biggest and most influential of the Soviet Union's 15 republics, is dominated by conservatives critical of the reform policies of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Its delegates will make up the majority at a crucial congress of the Soviet Communist Party which opens on July 2.

Monrovia and their leaders say they are poised to storm the city unless Doe steps down.

Moses Blah, leading a rebel patrol in the Firestone plantation, repeated Taylor's claim that the rebels can take Monrovia in 12 hours.

"We are trained in guerrilla fighting and commando naval fighting, and city fighting," he said. "We can even fight in the city of New York."

They shoot and run. When they are shooting they are not aiming at us. They are shooting in the air," Blah said.

A guerrilla who calls himself "Rebel 60" was also confident.

"If he decides to stay, we will fight, and we know who will die and who will live," said "Rebel 60" who wore grenades, bullets and a headband of cowrie shells.

He patrolled Buchanan's streets with four other rebels and two goats in the back of his pickup. The skull of a government soldier is tied to the front of the commandeered truck.

Amos Kanga, 27, sang to himself as he carried another skull down a dirt road toward a rebel checkpoint outside Buchanan.

He had hidden a soldier's severed head in the jungle three weeks earlier so the flesh would rot and was taking the souvenir back to decorate his guard post.

"It will be shining, come back and see," he said with a grin.

being identified. "They didn't find any, so they took \$2,000 instead."

Such belligerence has left residents edgy. "I'm afraid to go out," said a 26-year-old Liberian woman who lives just outside Buchanan. "Anytime someone just says, 'hey, my heart jumps.'"

Selma Kibuy, 28, a secretary until the fighting last month, is worried about dwindling supplies. "We have no food, we have no soap to wash with, we have no medication," she said, sitting on a porch. "We are just almost out of everything."

While government soldiers have been charged with atrocities, the rebel have been accused of random violence as well.

Johnny Konoh, 28, a hospital orderly, says he was shot by a rebel on June 1. He said there was no provocation and he was wearing his blue-and-white uniform with a red cross on its chest.

The rebels insist on calling themselves freedom fighters.

"I want for my country to be free and for our CIC (Commander-in-Chief Taylor) to rule Liberia," said Leaman Bishop, 19, as he stood guard duty with an AK-47 rifle outside the Buchanan supermarket. "I will fight until victory is ours."

She says she wants to be a doctor so she can cure diseases, adding, "Samuel Doe is a disease we must eradicate."

Quebec expresses bitterness over defeat of key accord

MONTREAL (AP) — Quebec residents turned a holiday into a display of defiance and bitterness over the failure of an accord recognising the French-speaking province's unique heritage.

A deadline expired Saturday for ratification of the Meech Lake Accord, which would have recognised Quebec as a "distinct society" within the English-speaking Canadian Federation.

Premier Clyde Wells of predominantly English-speaking Newfoundland suspended debate on the amendment in his legislature Friday, denying the required unanimous ratification by all 10 Canadian provinces.

In Quebec, the failure of the accord stirred bitterness toward English Canada on St. John's Baptist Day, a normally festive holiday in Quebec.

"There are a lot of people for whom today is a day of mourning," said Michel Rivard, a

Quebec singer who was to have performed at a gala holiday concert.

The concert and a parade were postponed by rain until Monday, delaying at least temporarily a possible mass outpouring over failure of the accord. Several hundred thousand people had been expected to attend.

There have been concerns that the failure of Meech Lake might lead to a renewed push by Quebec residents for independence.

Many in English Canada feared the accord would have given Quebec extra powers. But constitutional experts said the "distinct society" clause would have had few practical effects.

But the clause had strong symbolic significance in Quebec — Canada's largest province, with one-fourth of the country's 26

million people.

On Sunday, blue-and-white Quebec flags appeared on balconies, cars flew enormous Quebec flags and nationalist T-shirts sold briskly.

Provincial newspapers discussed Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa's comments that he would boycott future constitutional talks as the province decides on a new course for the future.

But the newspapers expressed opinion that there would be no precipitous move by Quebec toward independence, or toward a sovereignty-association relationship with the rest of Canada as had been proposed before.

"We won't be in a hurry," said Paul-Andre Comeau, editor of the Montreal newspaper *Le Devoir*. "Everybody will go on summer vacation, then we'll make up our minds."

It is a city of rusting sheet-metal shanties and homes burned by government soldiers when they were chased out by rebels of the National Patriotic Front.

Stores are no longer open. Gasoline stocks are nearly depleted.

At the last station with any gasoline, rebels pass the day dropping empty soda bottles into the tanks to slowly fish out the remaining fuel.

The rebels, led by former Doe aide Charles Taylor, invaded Liberia on Dec. 24 and reached Buchanan on May 19.

After a week of heavy fighting and scores of deaths, they won control of this city 145 kilometres southeast of the capital of Monrovia — a crucial victory in their drive to oust Doe.

Patriotic Front forces now extend to within 24 kilometres of

COLUMN

Masked men steal \$4m from Italian depot

ALESSANDRIA, Italy (R) — Five masked gunmen broke into a railway postal depot and got away with five billion lire (\$4 million) in cash, cheques and valuables after tying up four night workers, Italian police said Monday. The cheques, valued at about four billion lire (\$325 million), were worthless since they were blocked as soon as the alarm was raised. The thieves entered the depot in this northwest Italian town early Sunday morning.

King Arthur's burial place found

LONDON (R) — An American historian has discovered the burial place of Britain's legendary King Arthur near the Scottish border, a leading authority on royal lineage said Monday. Burke's Peerage said Professor Norma Goodrich, an expert on Arthurian legend, believed he was buried in the parish of Arthur in northern England, not in Wales as previously thought. It quoted Goodrich as saying that the area once belonged to Scotland and is near Camboglenn, where Arthur is said to have fought his last battle. "The veil of mystery on Arthurian legend is at last slowly being lifted. The discovery of the burial place of Britain's most famous monarch will definitely create a new editing task for all the history books of this island," said Harold Brooks-Baker, publisher of Burke's Peerage. Scholars have worked for centuries to uncover the truth about King Arthur and his knights of the round table who appear in a series of medieval romances set in the sixth century. Brooks-Baker believes the legend is not pure myth and that a monarch bearing a close resemblance to King Arthur existed. Goodrich, a fellow at Columbia University in New York, traced King Arthur's court of Camelot to the ruins of a Scottish castle two years ago. Burke's Peerage said Goodrich's research, based on information correlated by the late Professor N. Chadwick of the University of Wales, showed that the name Arthur meant "Arthur the bear."

France to ban smoking on commuter trains

PARIS (R) — The French government stepped up its fight against tobacco Monday, announcing new curbs on smoking in trains. The French National Railroad and the Health Ministry signed an agreement banning smoking on all Paris commuter lines from Jan. 1, 1991. Smoking is already illegal on the underground railway. Smokers' share of seats on major train routes will drop by 1993 to 30 per cent from the current 50 per cent and beginning next year smokers will not be able to light up in corridors or platforms. The agreement was signed hours before parliament was due to take up a government draft law banning cigarette advertisements and restricting commercial for all but the weakest of alcoholic drinks.

Family survives week lost in cave

FRANKLIN, West Virginia (AP) — A man and two sons were rescued Saturday after being lost in a cave for most of a week without food, water or light, officials said. Gary William Lutes, 37, and sons Gary Jr., 13, and Timothy, 9, of Florida were rescued at 2 a.m., then hospitalised for dehydration. Lutes said the three became lost Monday when their lamps went out, leaving them in total darkness in New Trout Cave in eastern West Virginia. "We had been exploring for about an hour and a half, and we were supposed to have another half an hour," Lutes said in a telephone interview from the hospital. The three "had left their pack with food and water on a side trail when their lamps started going out," said Lutes, who had explored caves for the past 20 years without becoming lost. "We would have had to crawl on our hands and knees, and we could have gone in circles in the wrong direction," Lutes said. "We decided the best thing to do was sit down and wait for someone to find us." The search didn't start until Thursday, when the three were to meet with family members in Virginia. When they didn't arrive, family members contacted authorities and local cave explorers started looking for the Lutes.